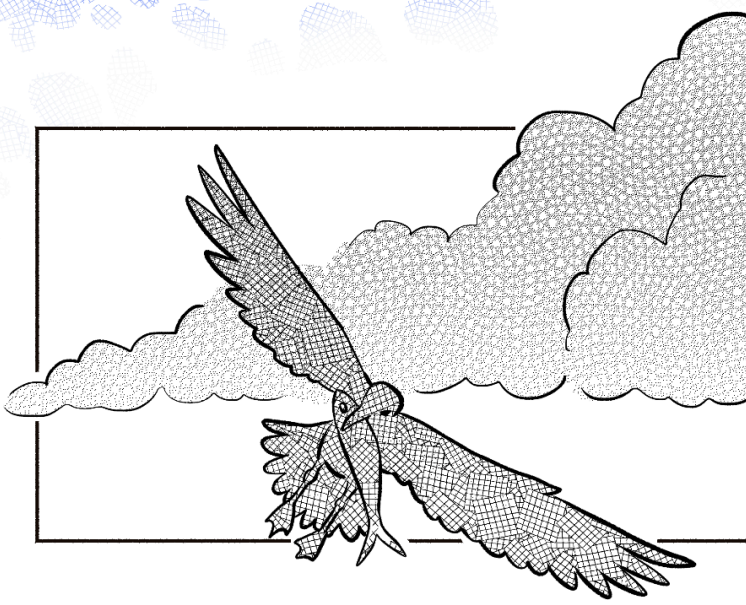
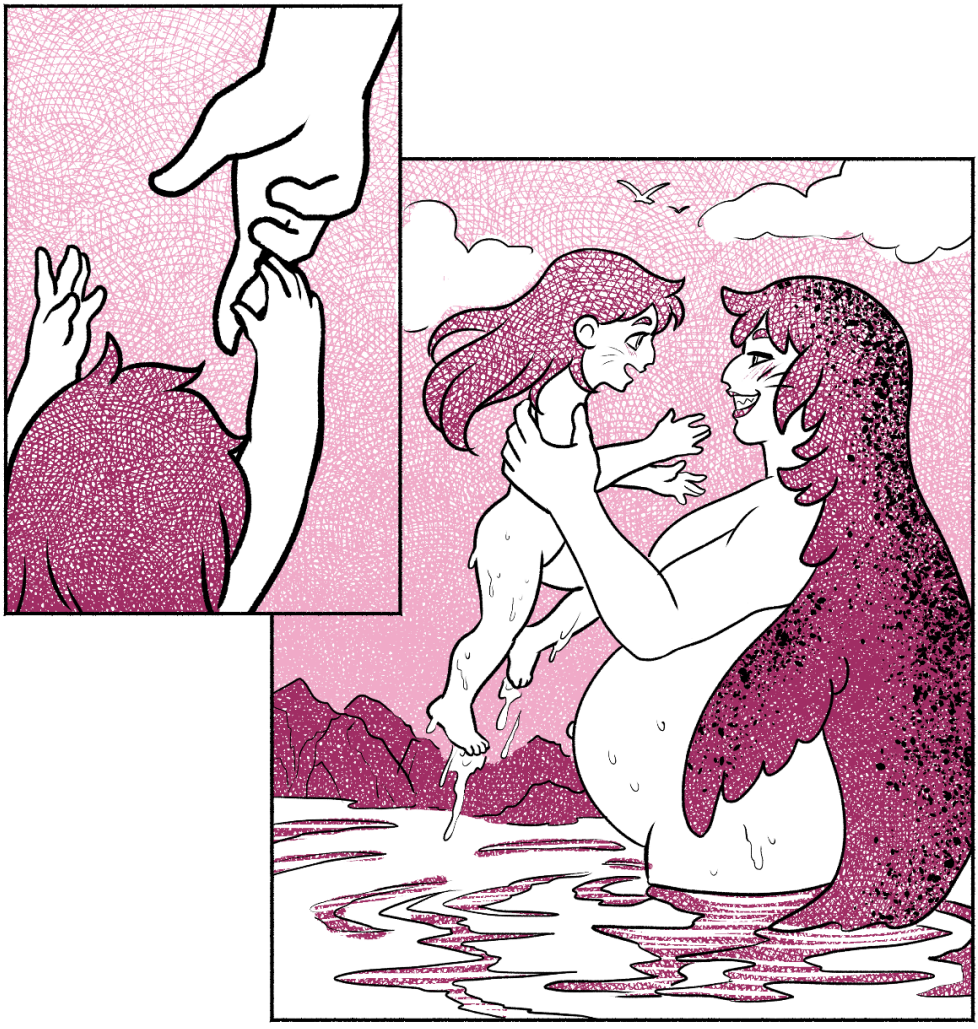
Hope

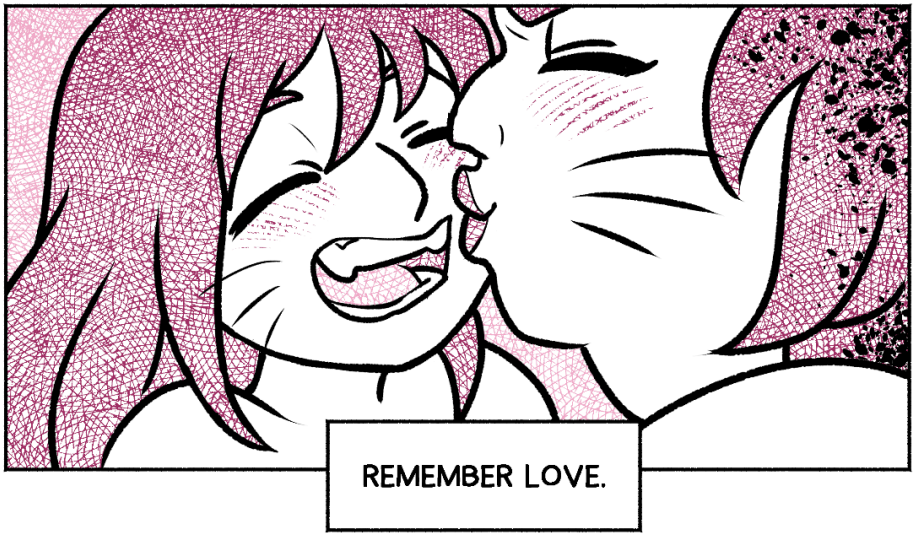
(a Sister Claire special comic)

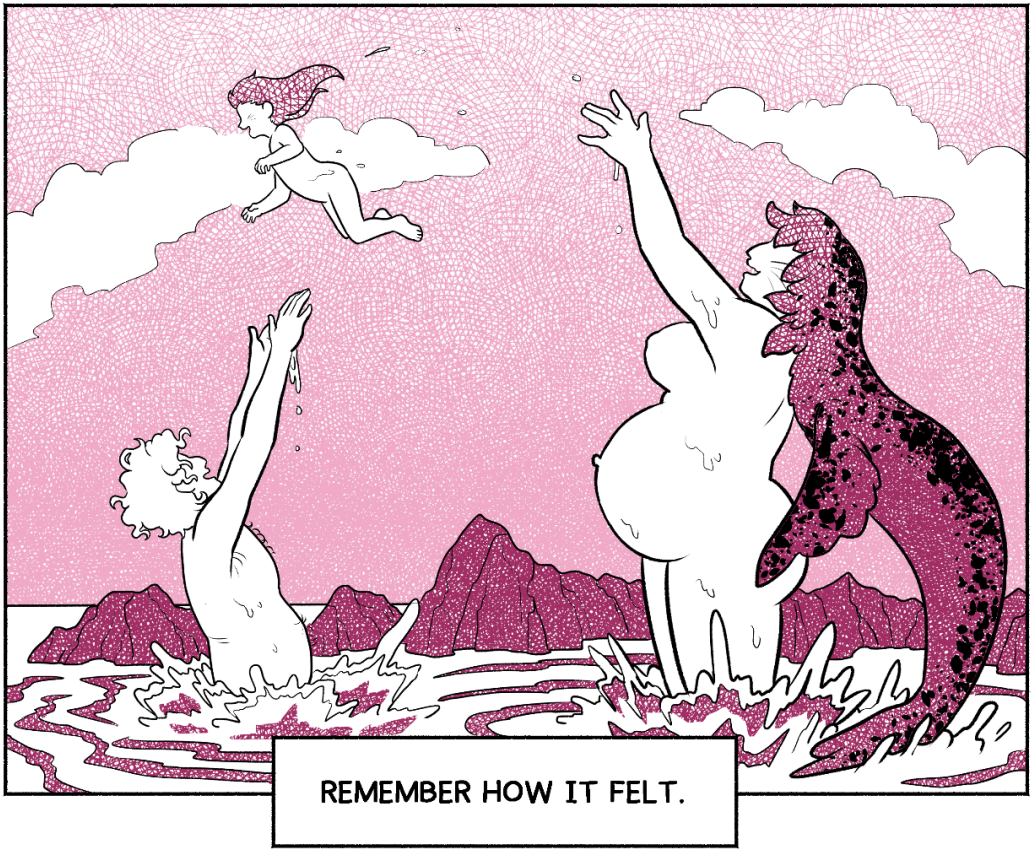
WHEN ALL SEEMS DARK,
THINK BACK.

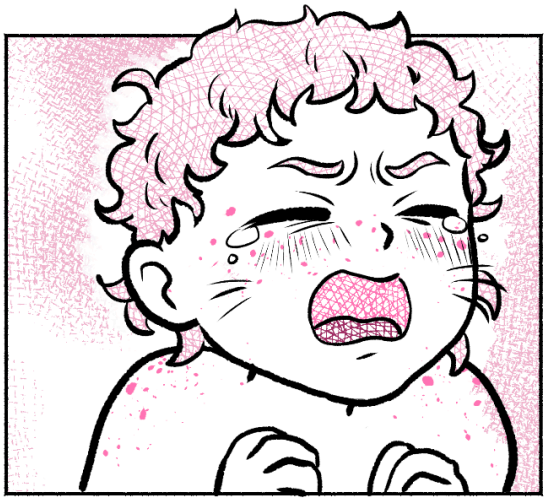


REMEMBER JOY.

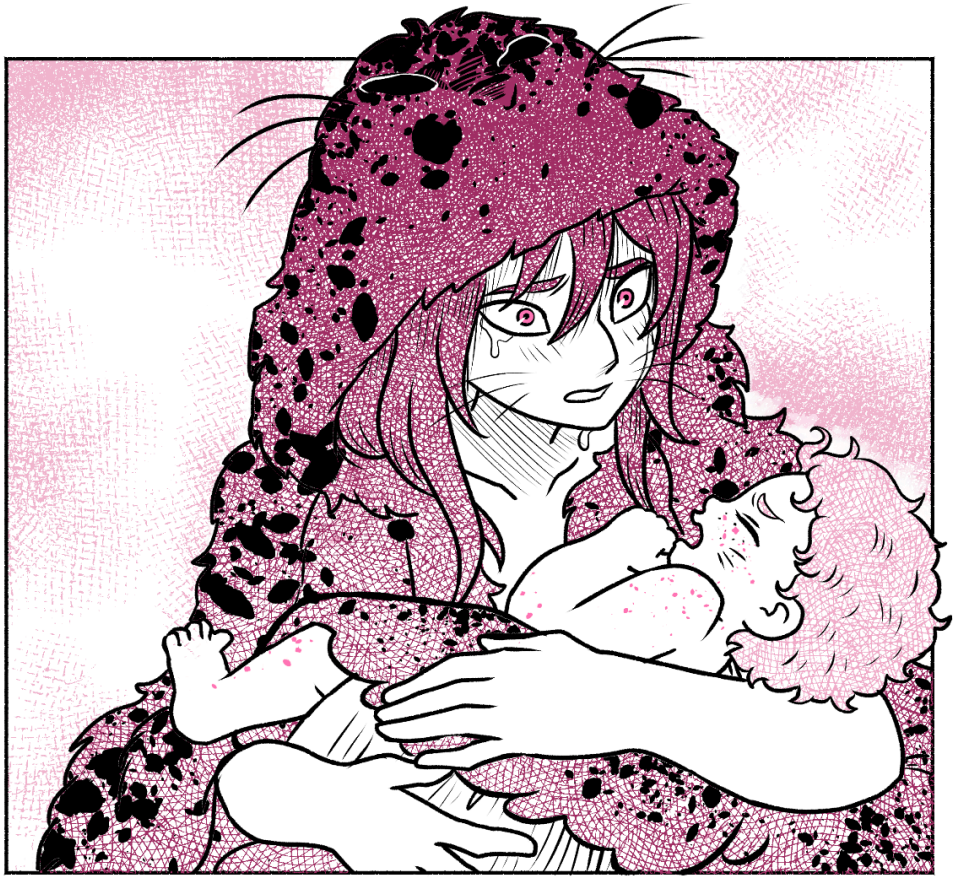


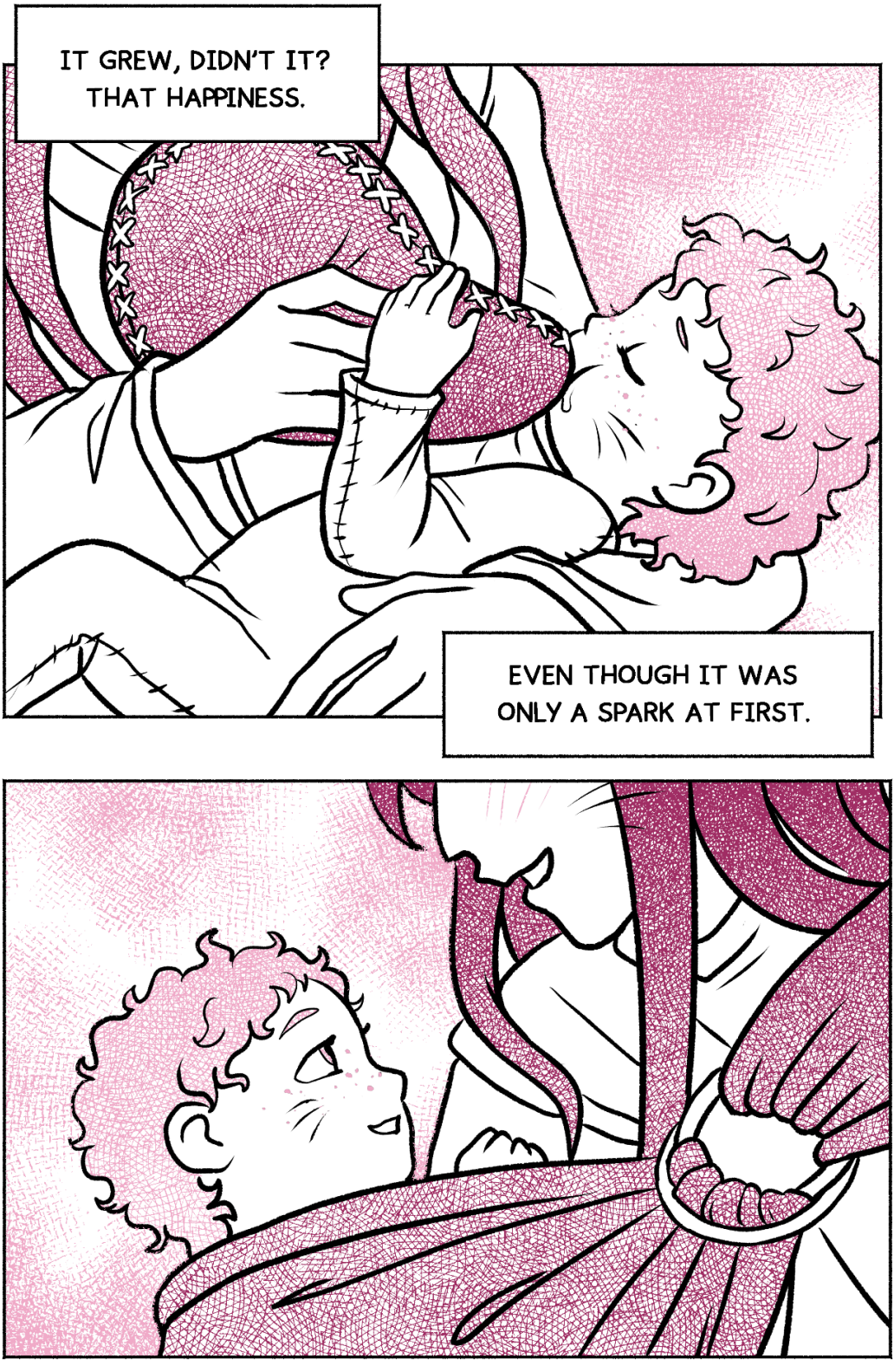

REMEMBER LOVE.


REMEMBER HOW IT FELT.

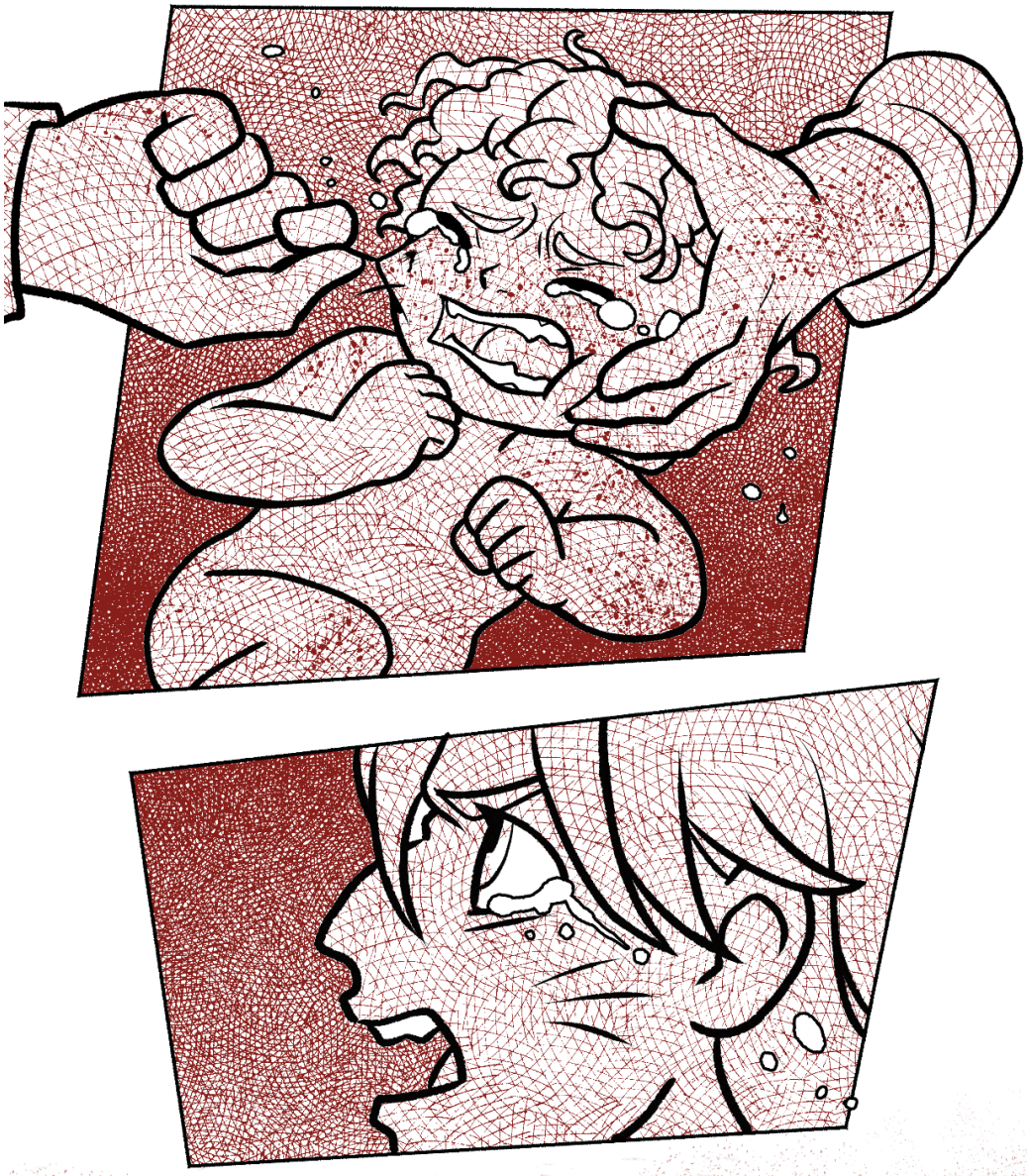


REMEMBER HOW IT WAS THERE EVEN WHEN YOU WERE LOST, LOST, LOST.

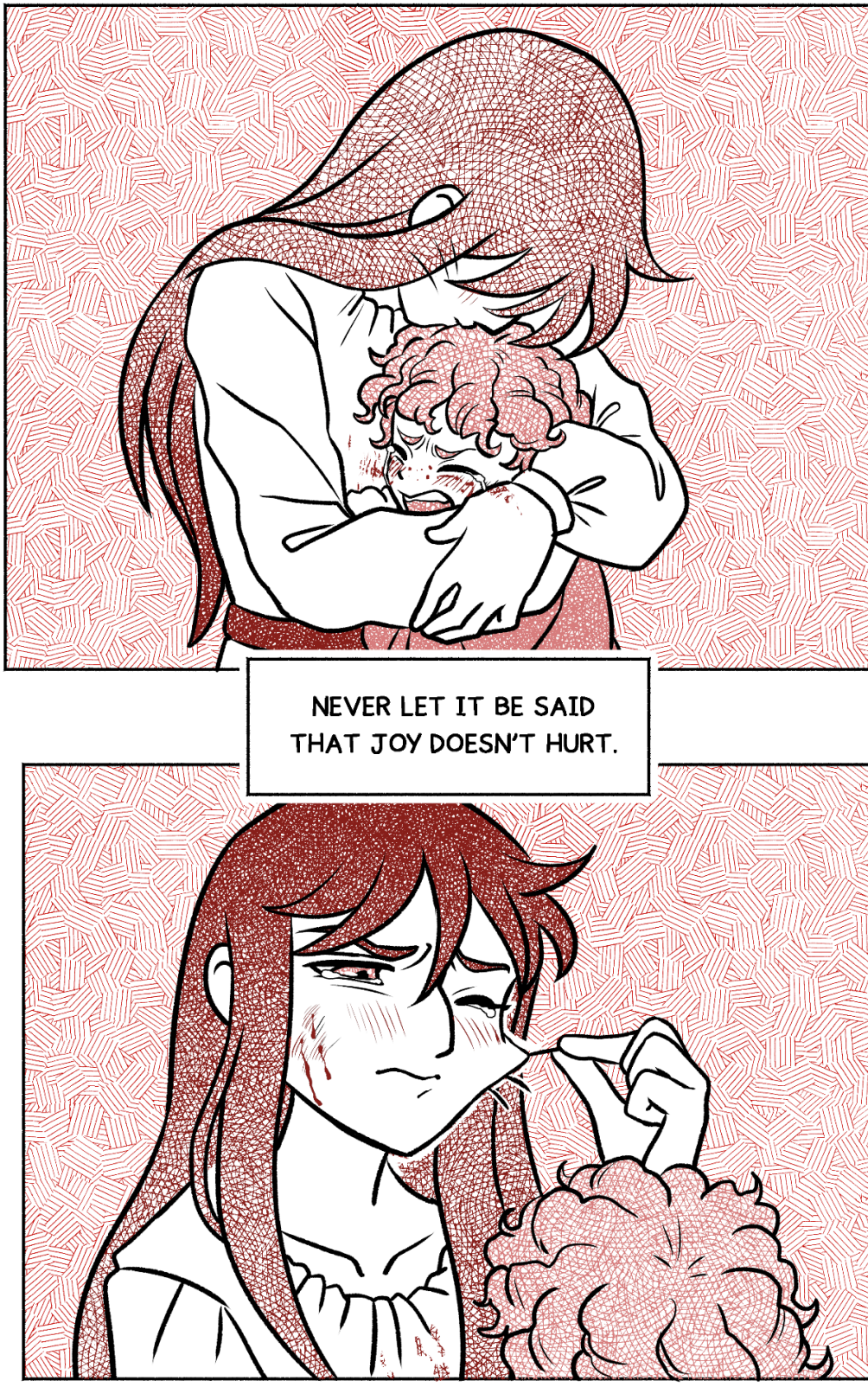



IT GREW, DIDN'T IT?
THAT HAPPINESS.
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS
ONLY A SPARK AT FIRST.

YOU NURTURED IT.
YOU SHELTERED IT.

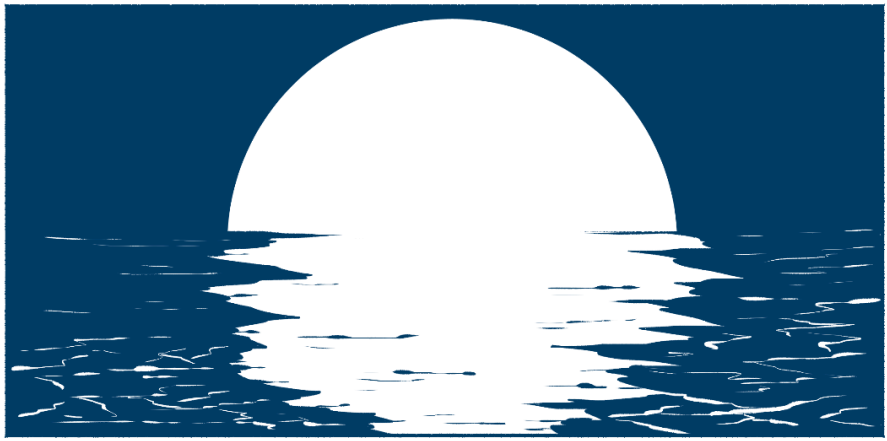


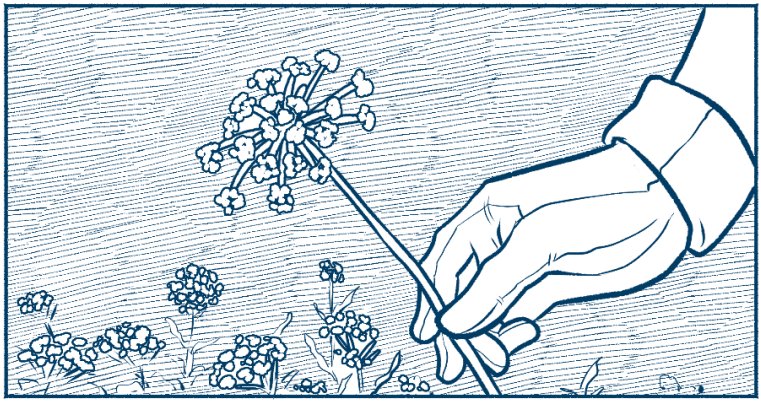
YOU FOUGHT FOR IT.


NEVER LET IT BE SAID
THAT JOY DOESN'T HURT.

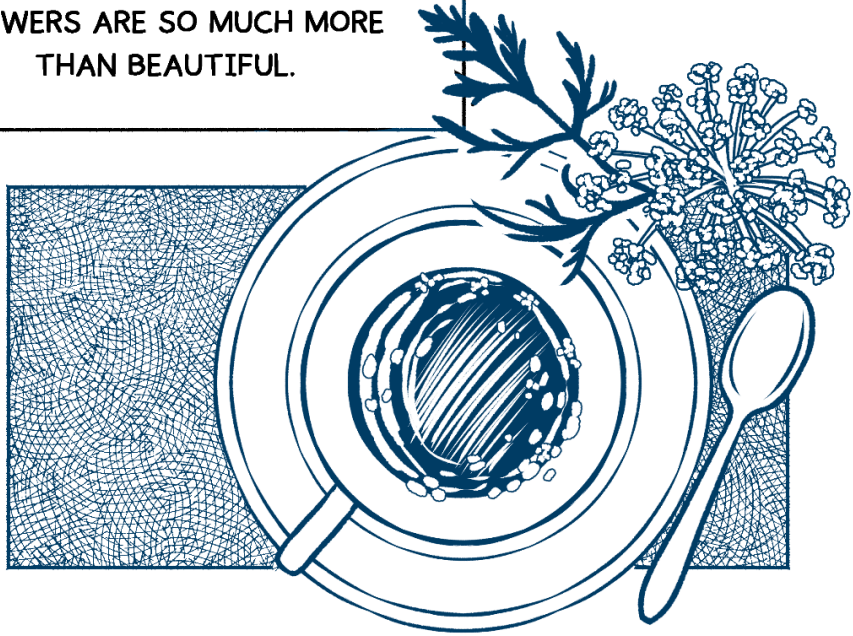
NEVER LET IT BE SAID THAT JOY
ISN'T ANOTHER NAME FOR RAGE.

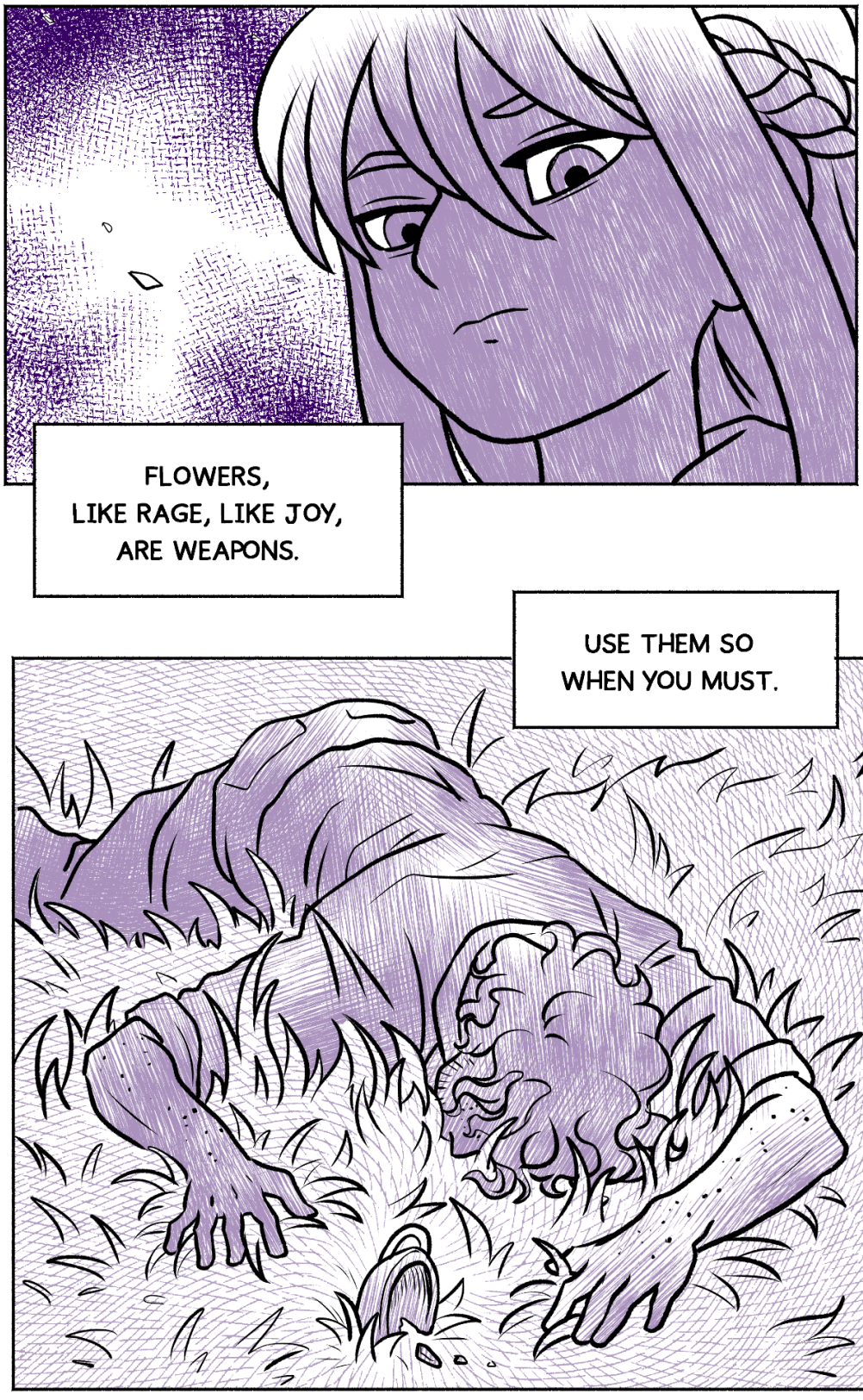
RAGE, LIKE JOY, BLOOMS.
BLOSSOMS. FLOWERS.

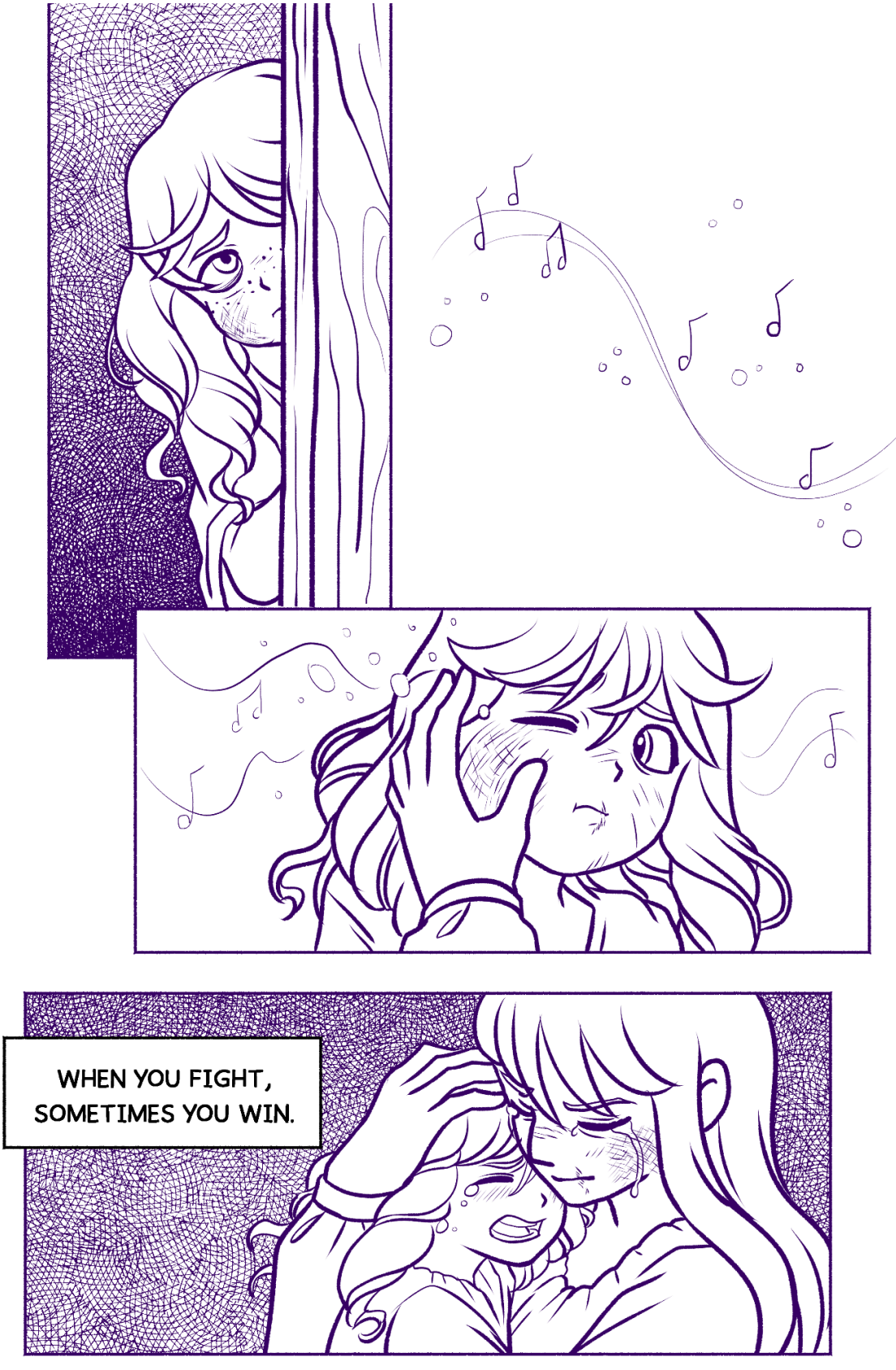


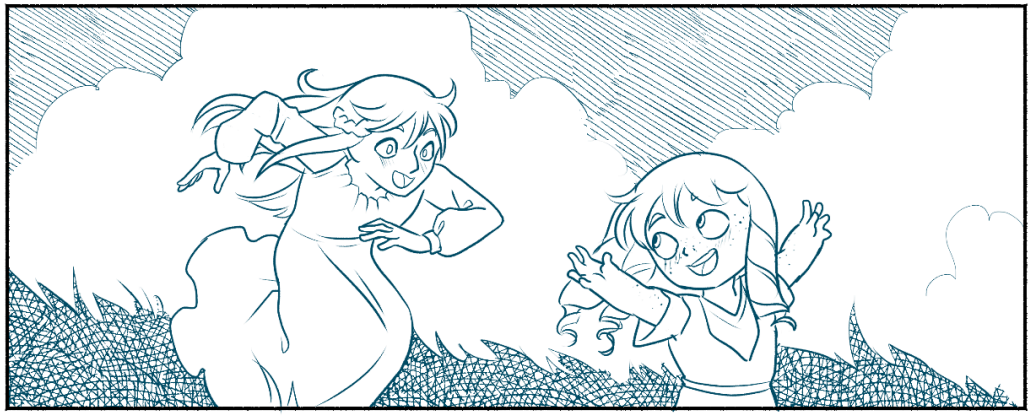


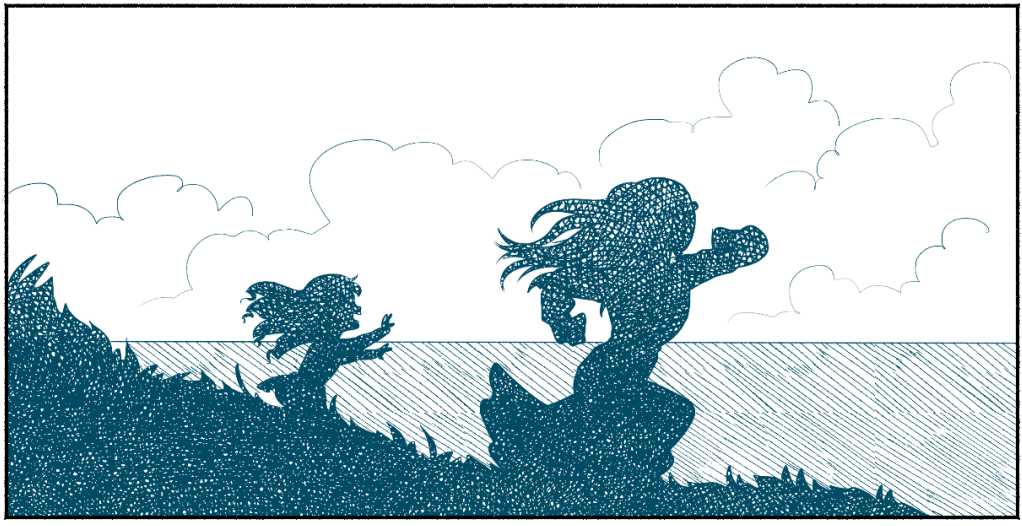
FLOWERS ARE SO MUCH MORE THAN BEAUTIFUL.

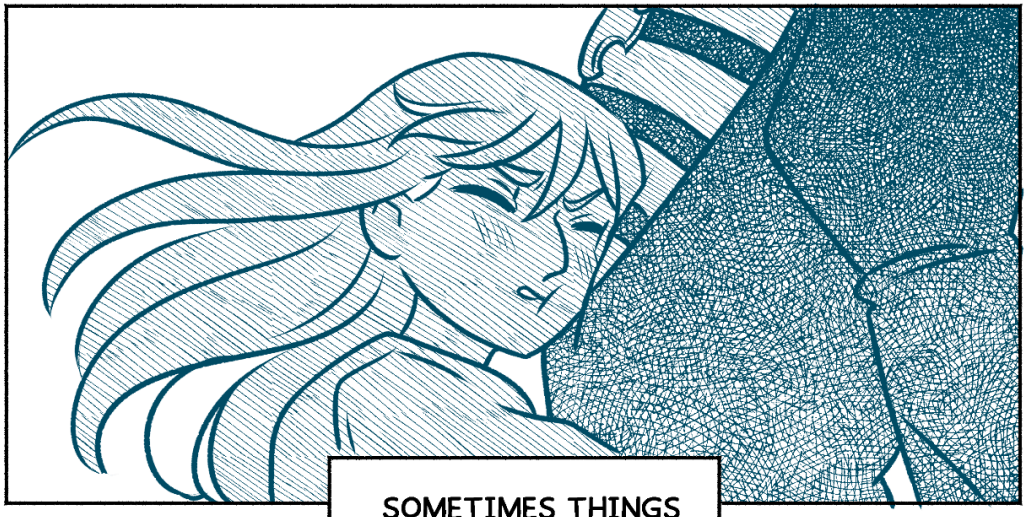



FLOWERS,
LIKE RAGE, LIKE JOY,
ARE WEAPONS.
USE THEM SO
WHEN YOU MUST.

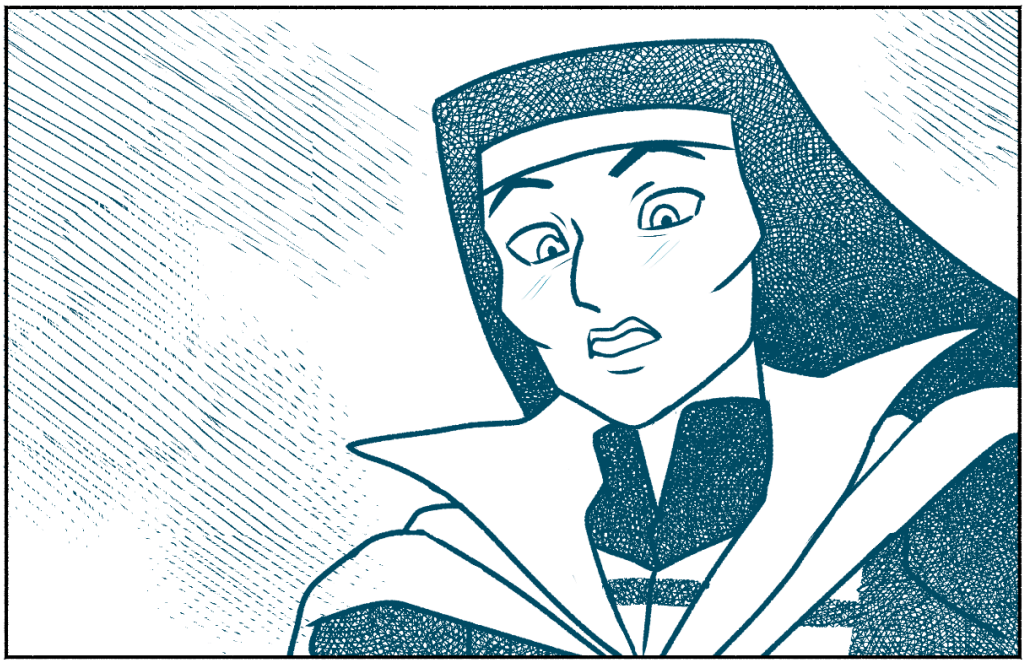

WHEN YOU FIGHT,
SOMETIMES YOU WIN.



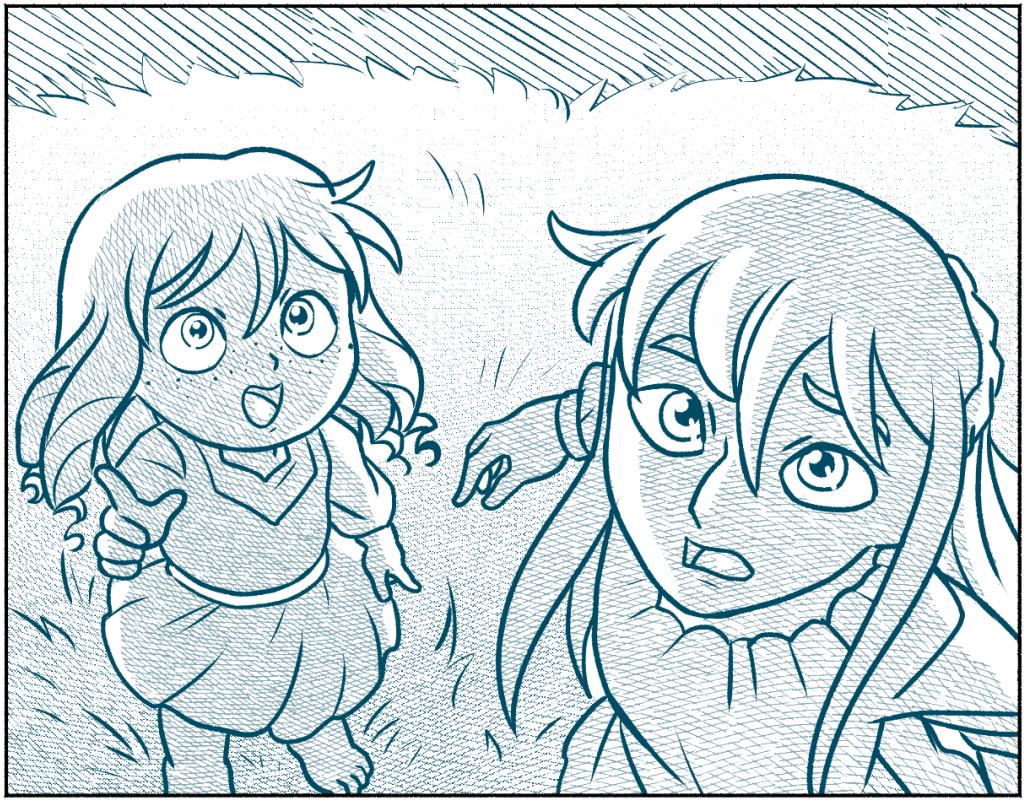


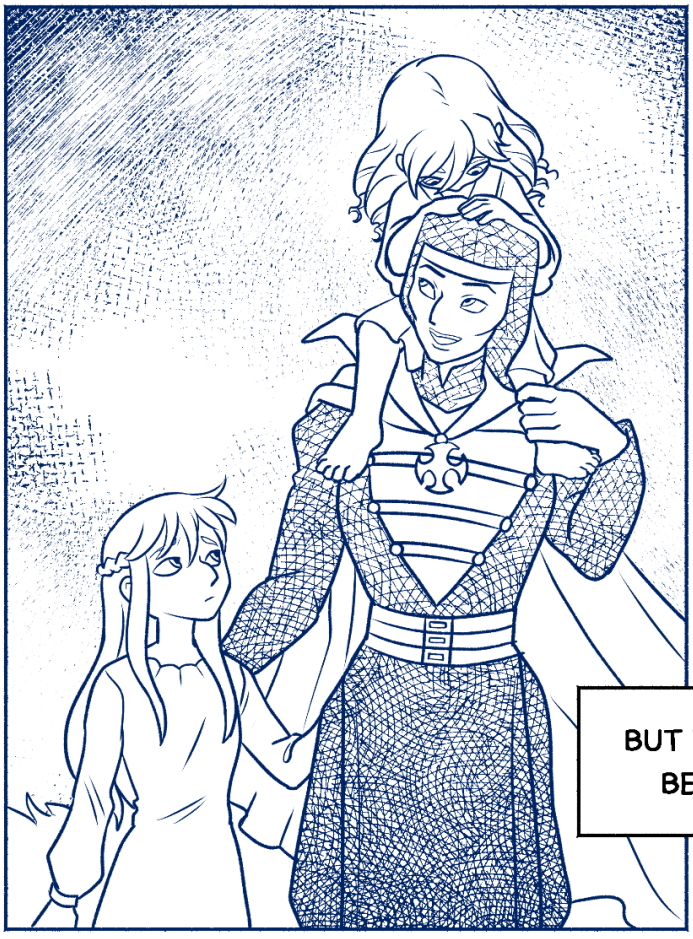


SOMETIMES THINGS
GET BETTER.

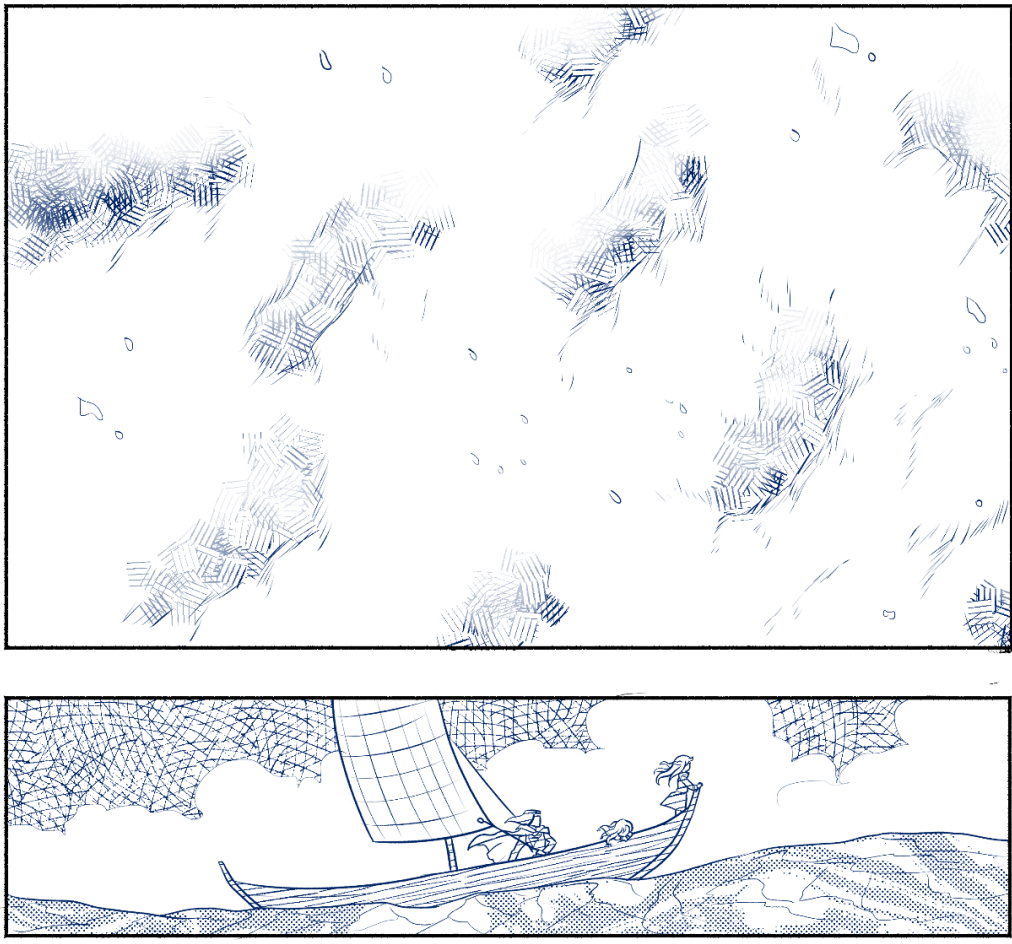


AND SOMETIMES THINGS DON'T GO THE WAY YOU THOUGHT THEY WOULD.

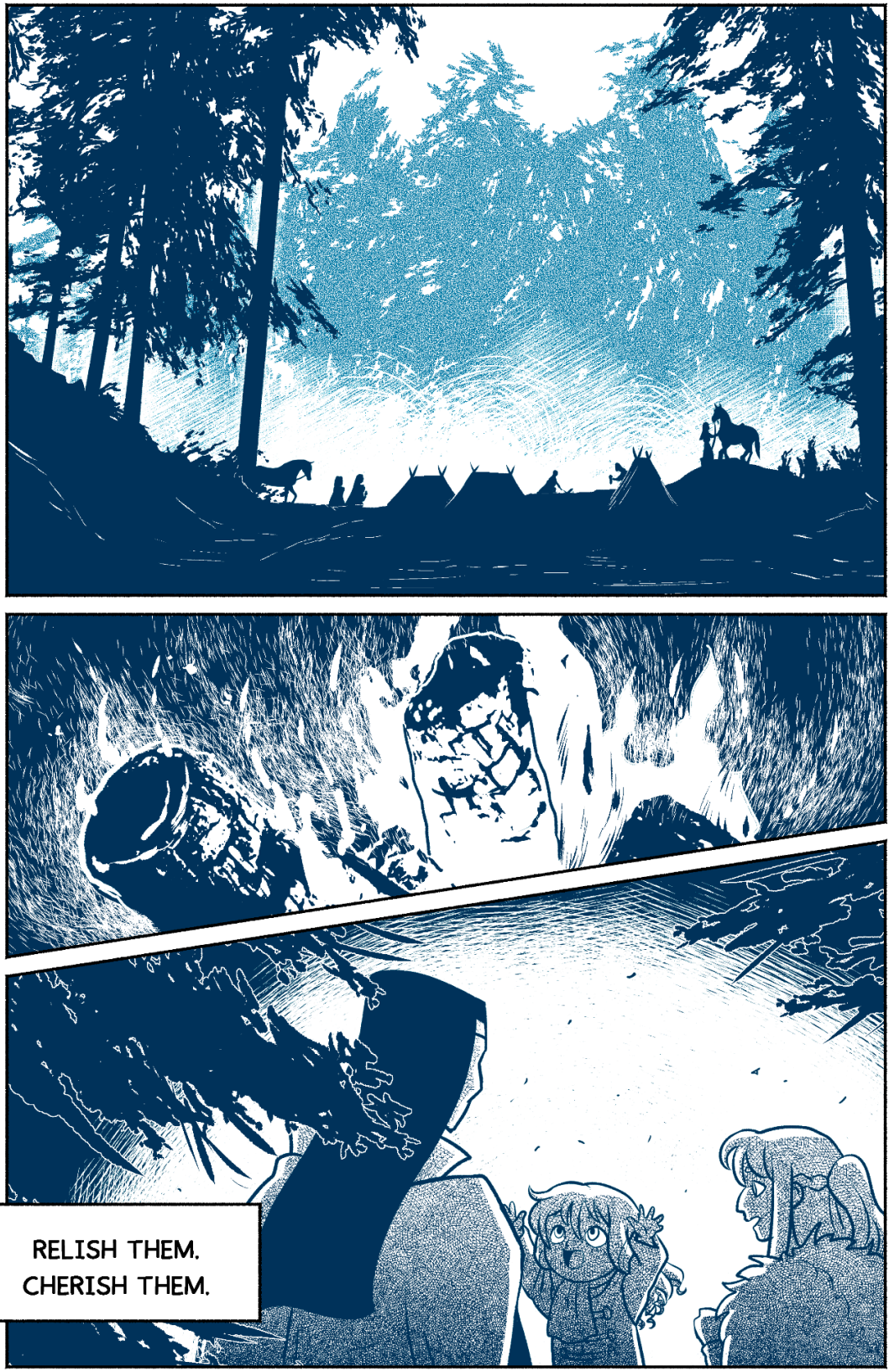


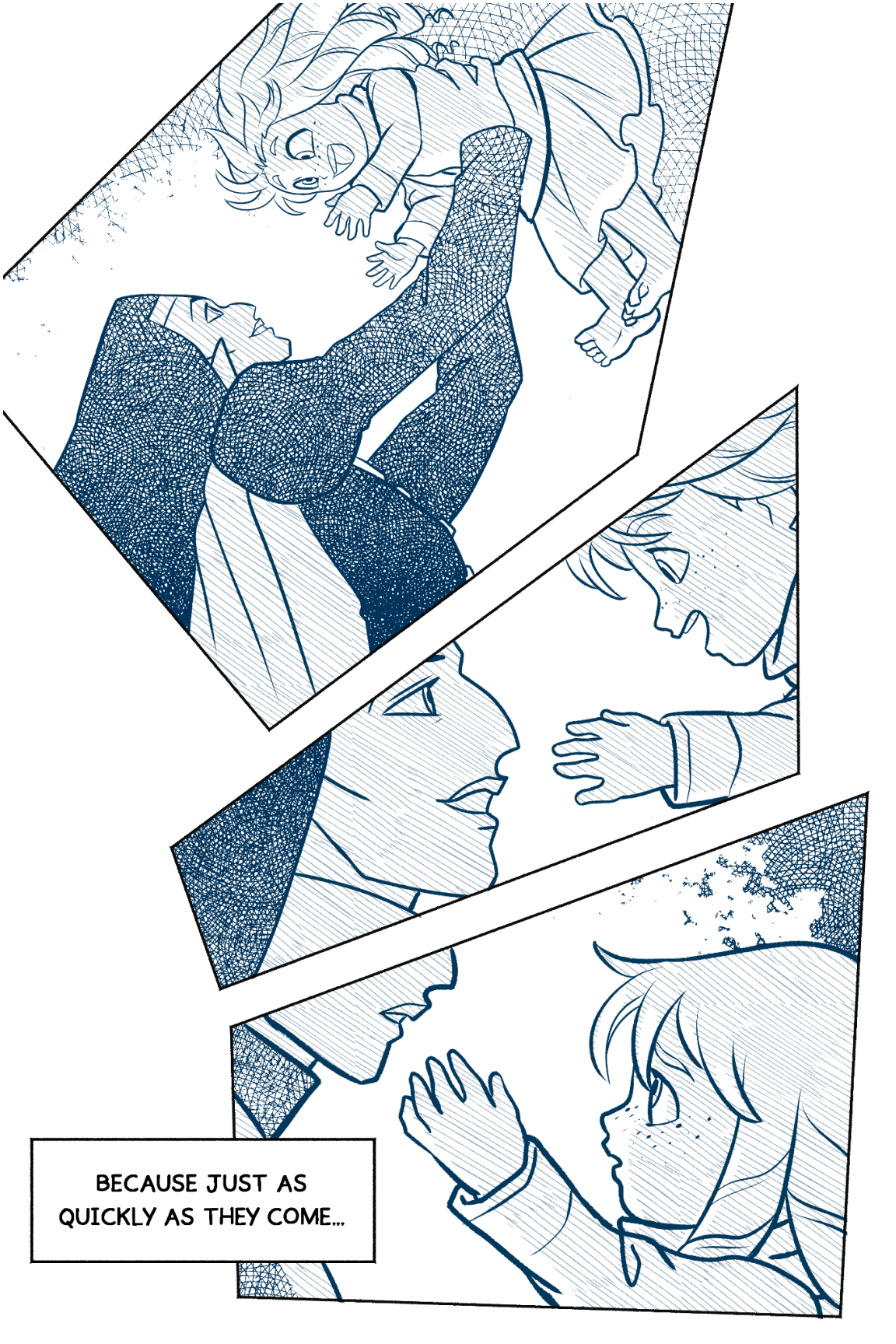

BUT YOU CAN'T ALWAYS BE ON YOUR GUARD.

NEW THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS BAD.



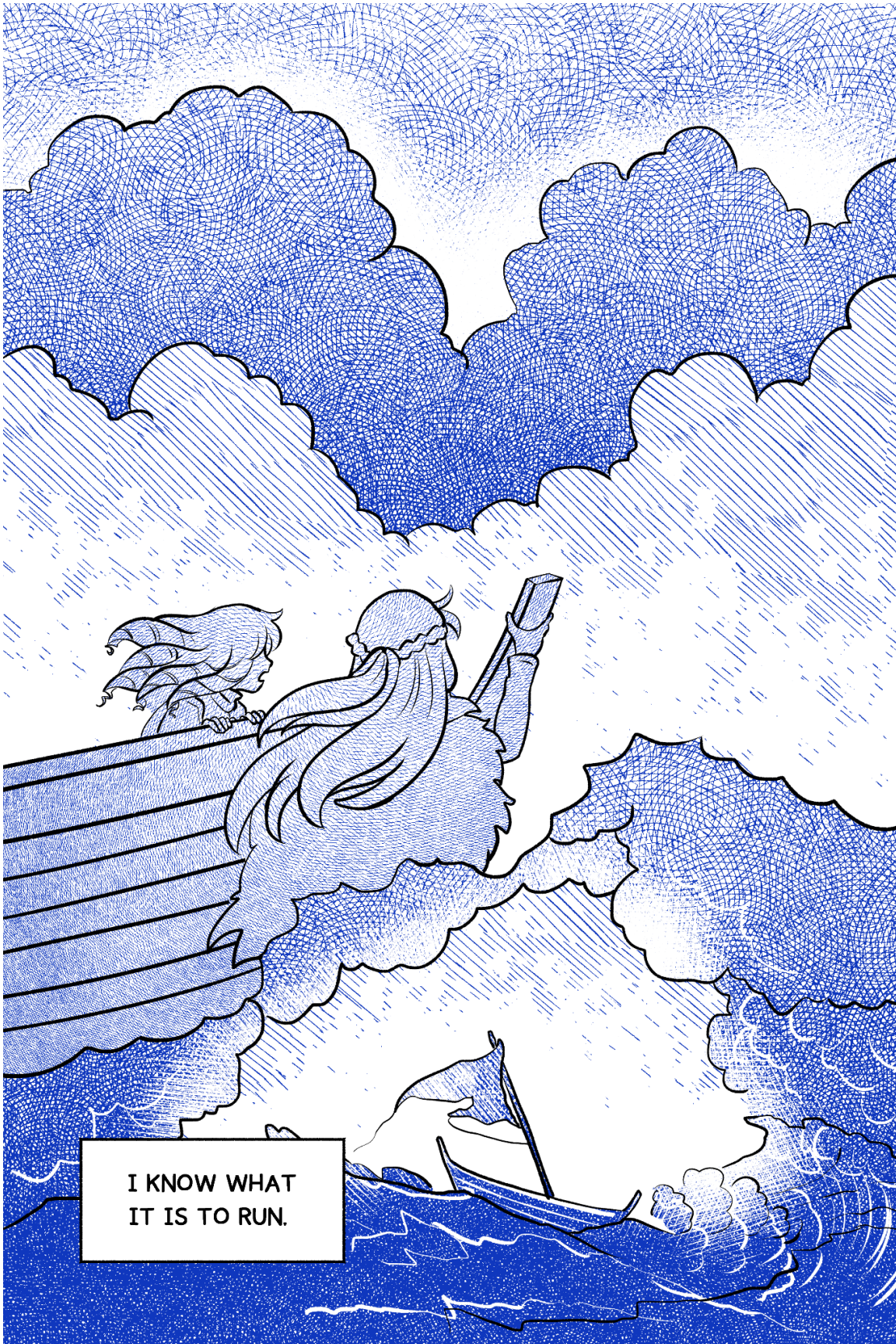
WHEN YOU LET THEM,
JOY AND HAPPINESS
OPEN THE WORLD.

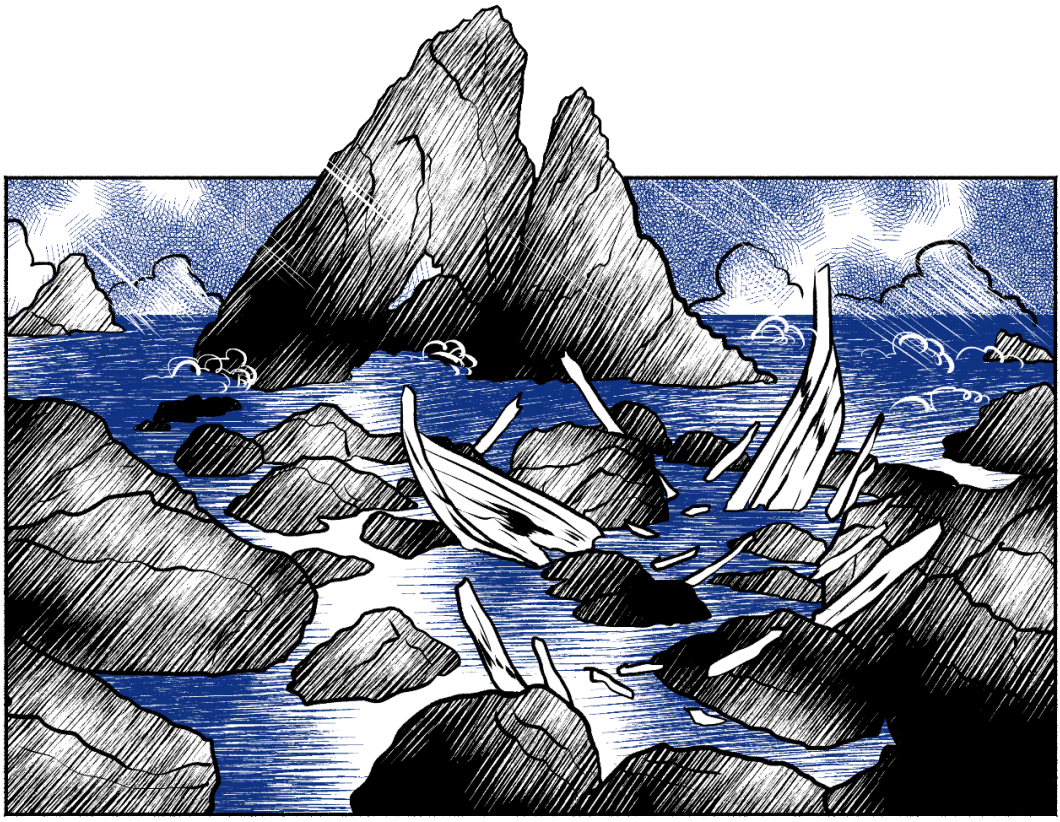

RELISH THEM.
CHERISH THEM.

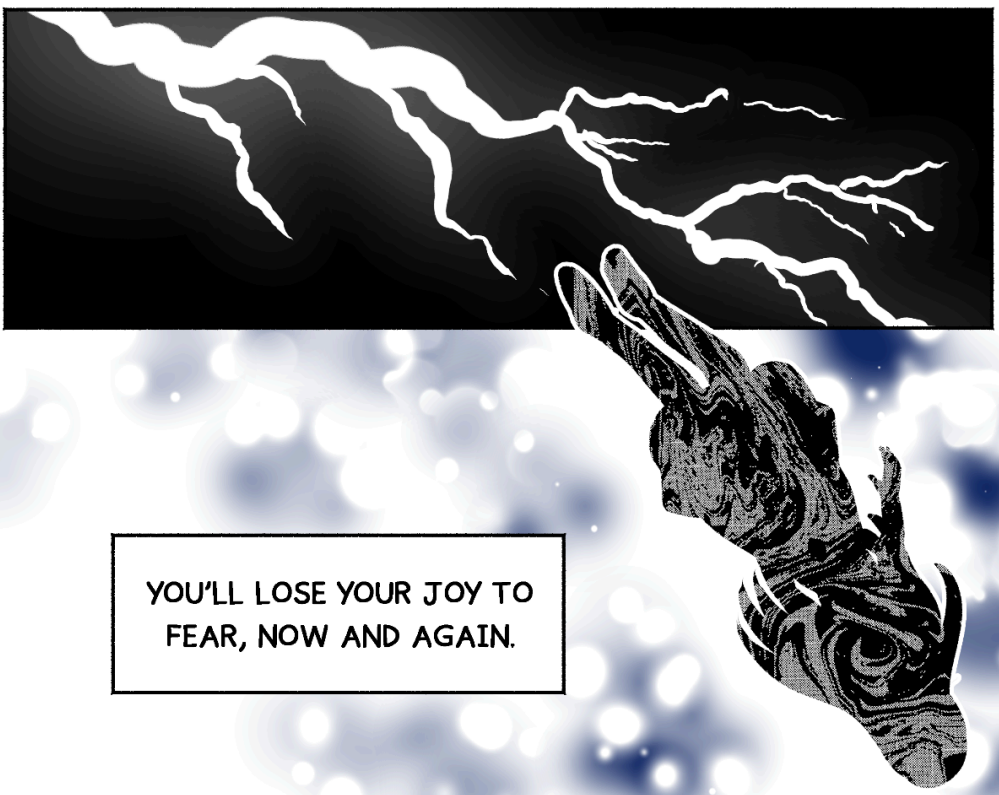

BECAUSE JUST AS
QUICKLY AS THEY COME...

...THEY ARE APT TO
VANISH AGAIN.

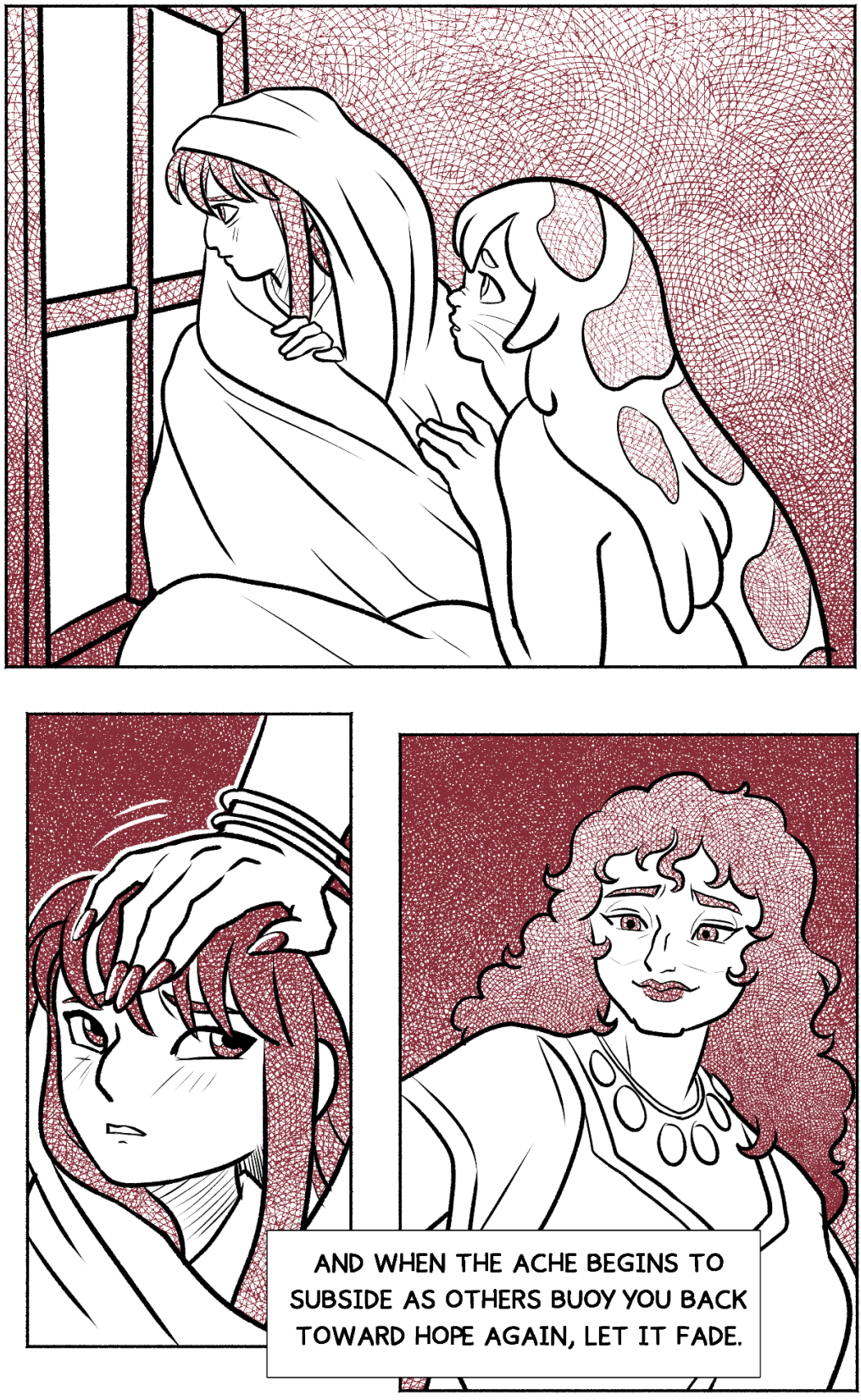
I KNOW WHAT IT IS TO BE AFRAID OF OLD HURTS RISING ANEW.

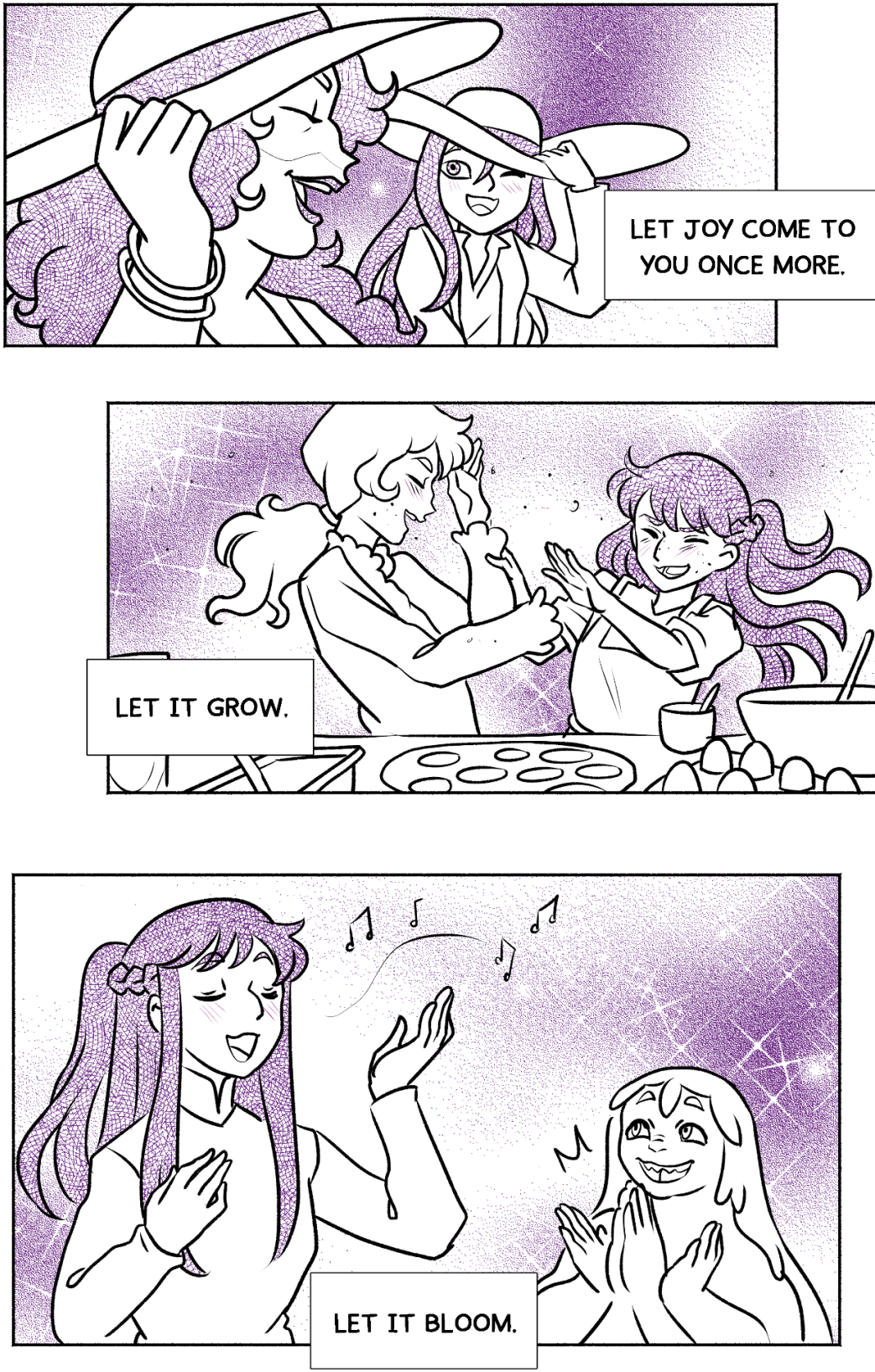

I KNOW WHAT
IT IS TO RUN.



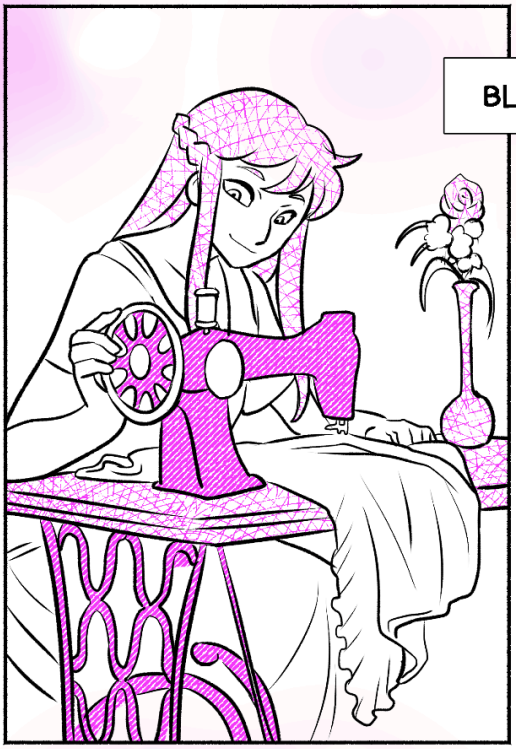

YOU'LL LOSE YOUR JOY TO FEAR, NOW AND AGAIN.

IT WILL ACHE AND ACHE.

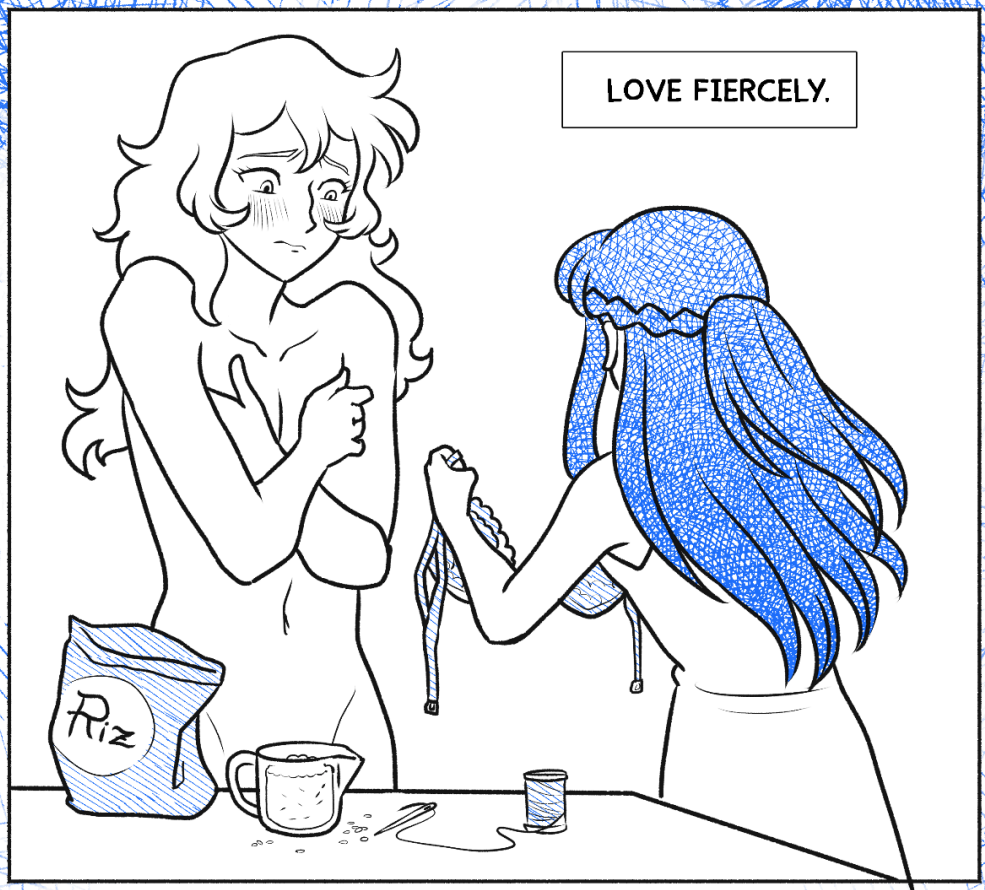

AND WHEN THE ACHE BEGINS TO SUBSIDE AS OTHERS BUOY YOU BACK TOWARD HOPE AGAIN, LET IT FADE.

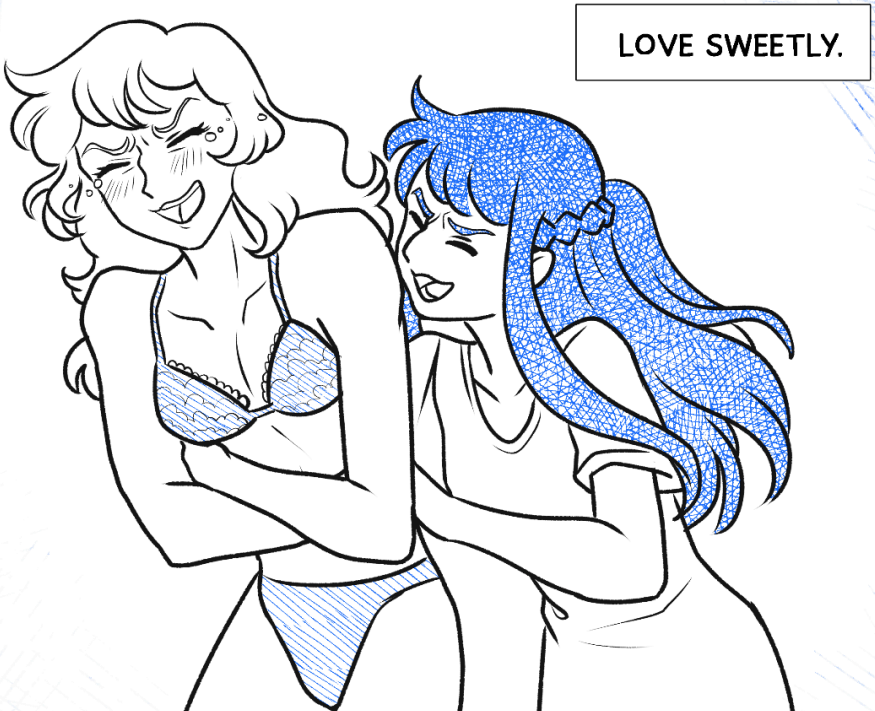

LET JOY COME TO YOU ONCE MORE.
LET IT GROW.
LET IT BLOOM.

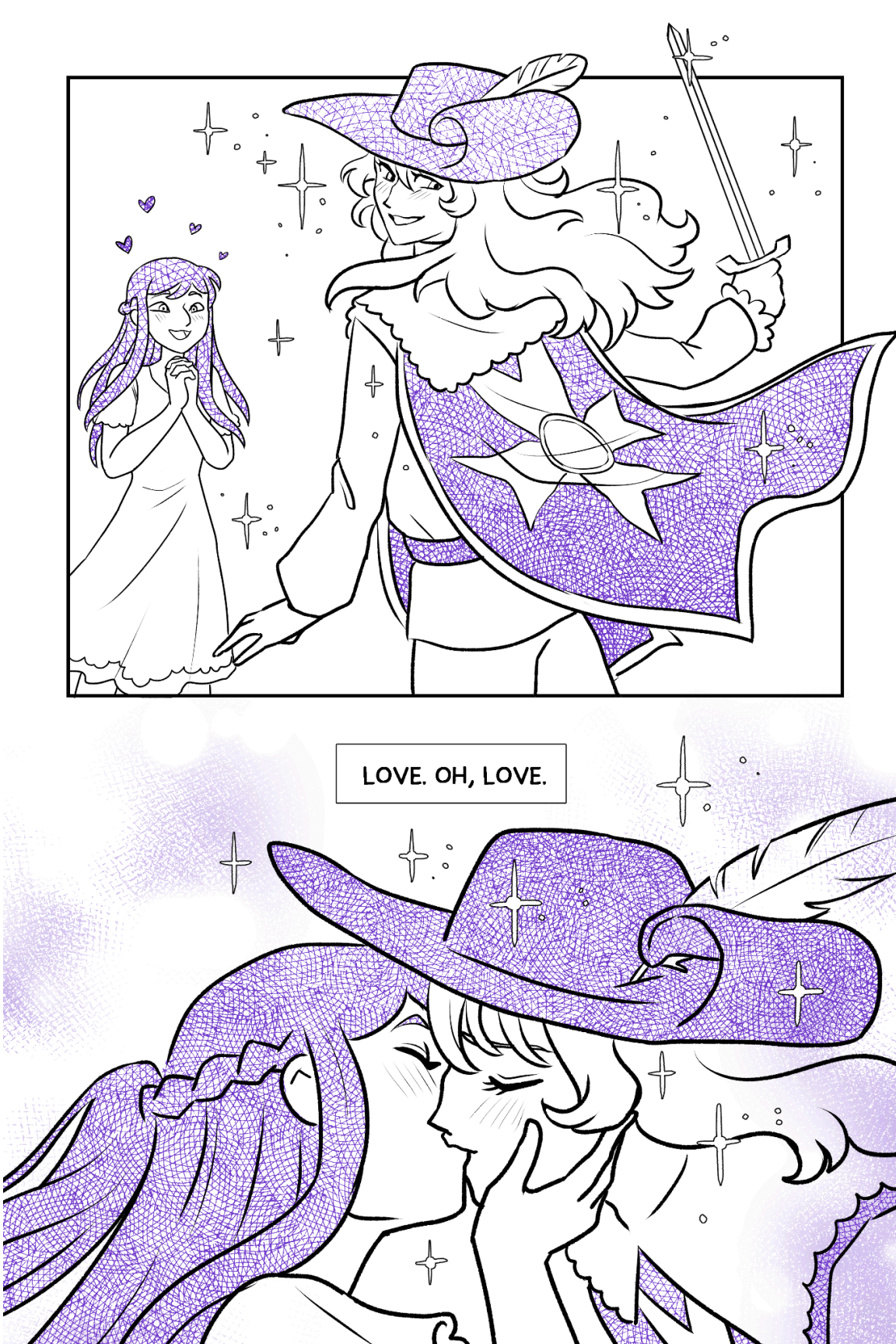
GROW.

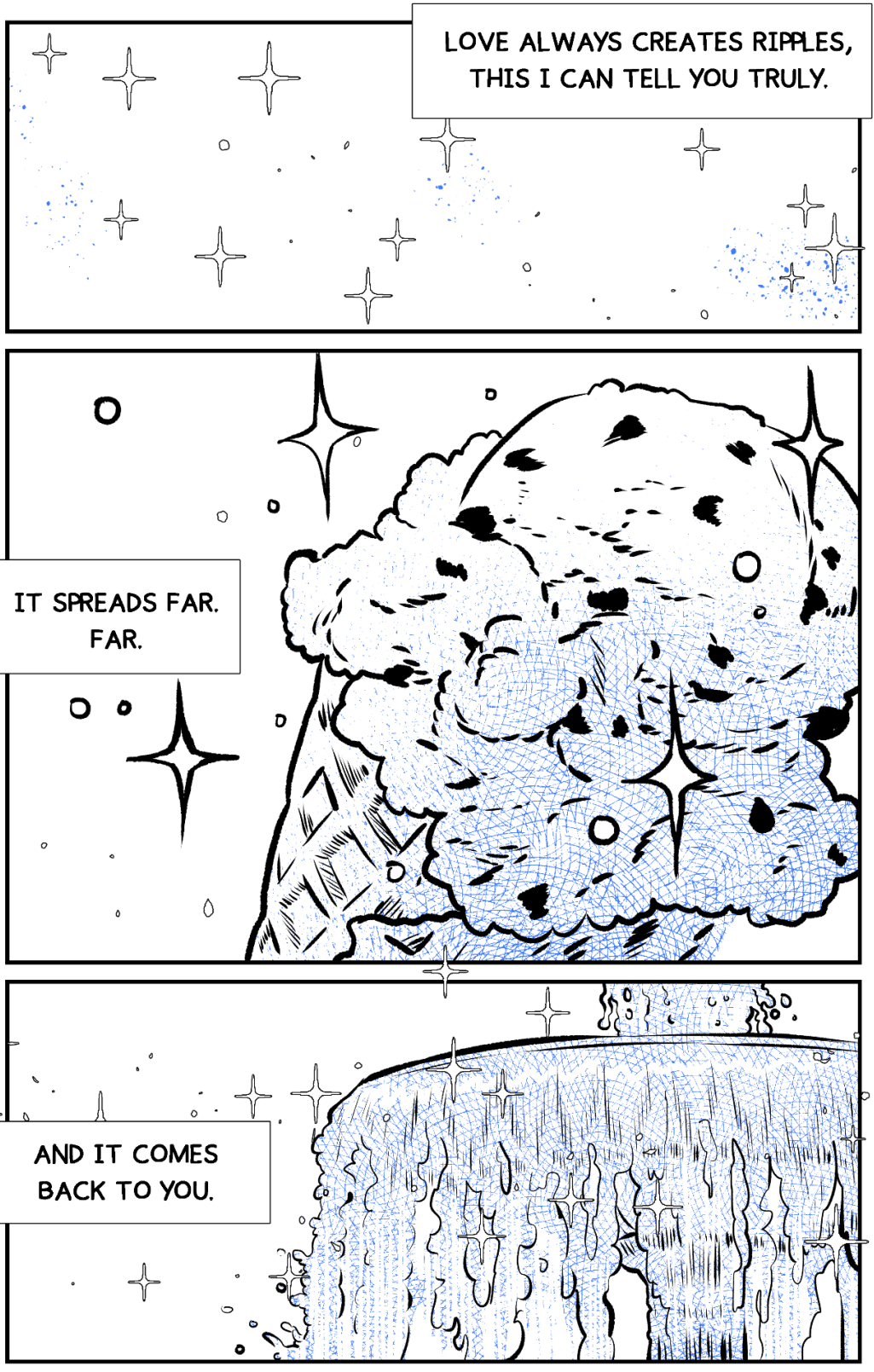

BLOOM.

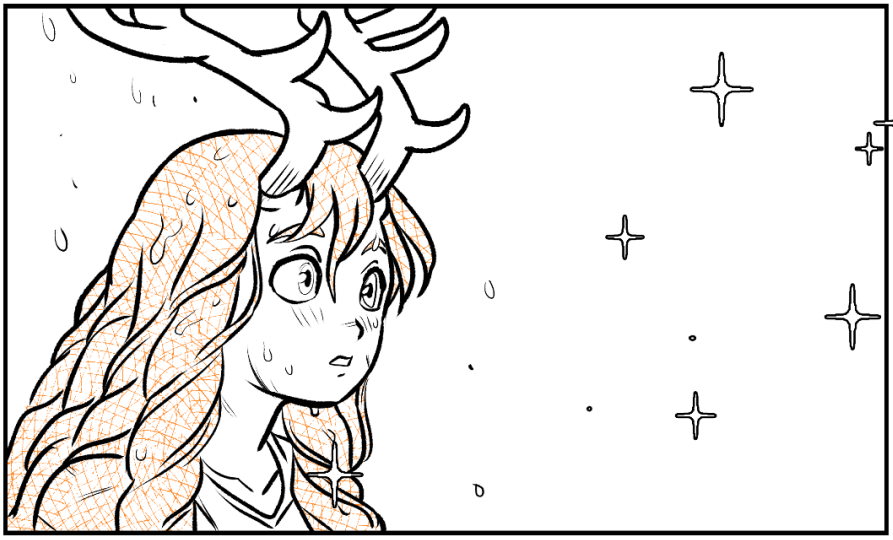
LOVE.

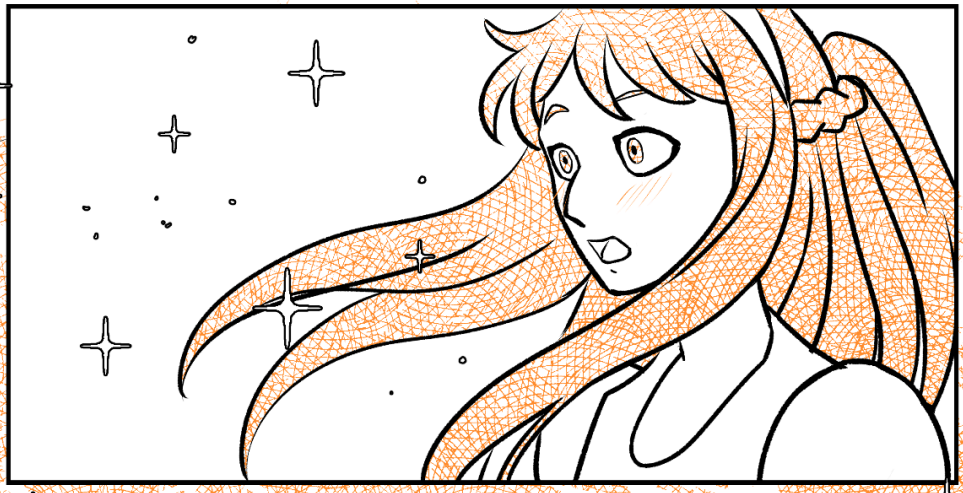

LOVE FIERCELY.
Riz


LOVE SWEETLY.

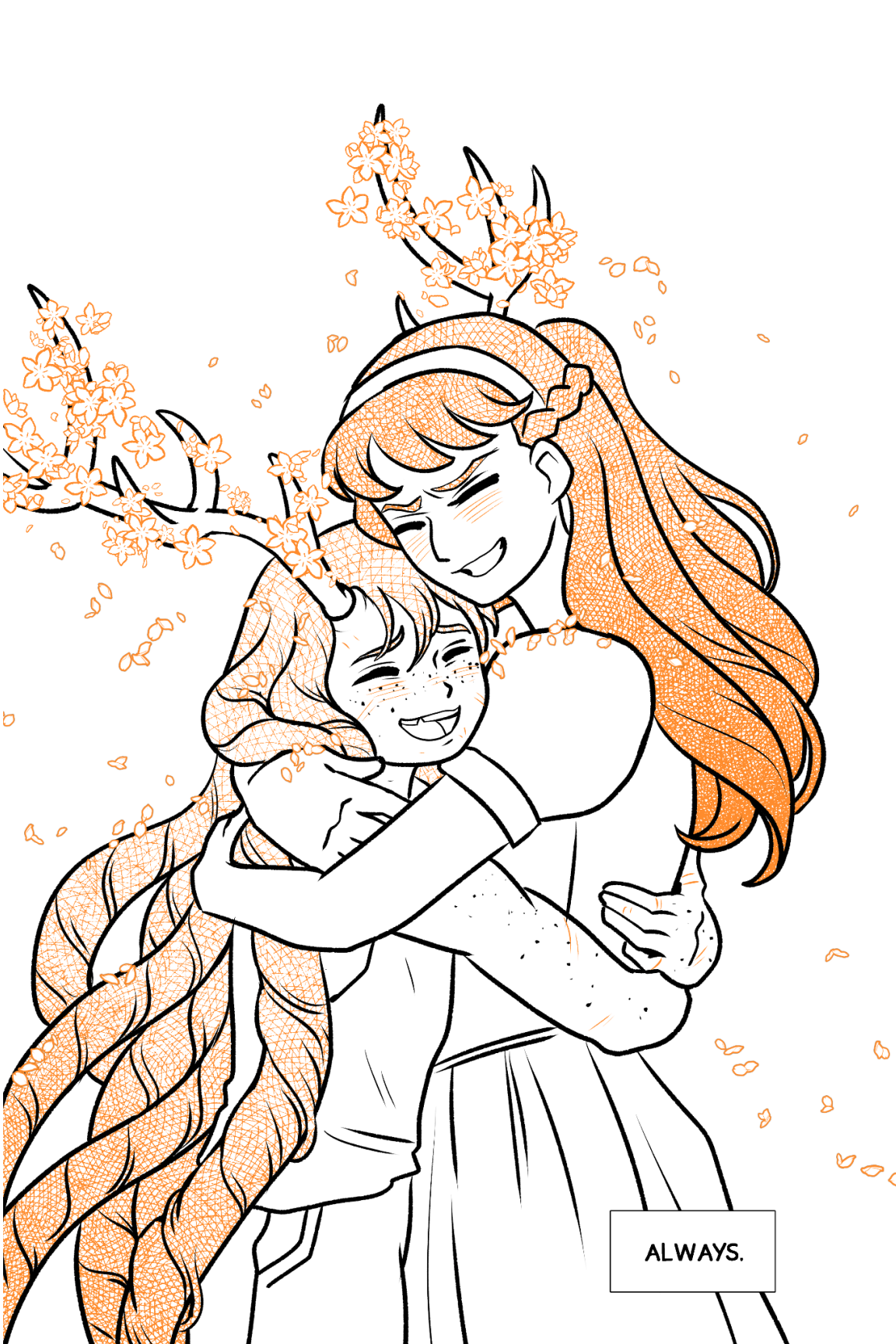

LOVE. OH, LOVE.

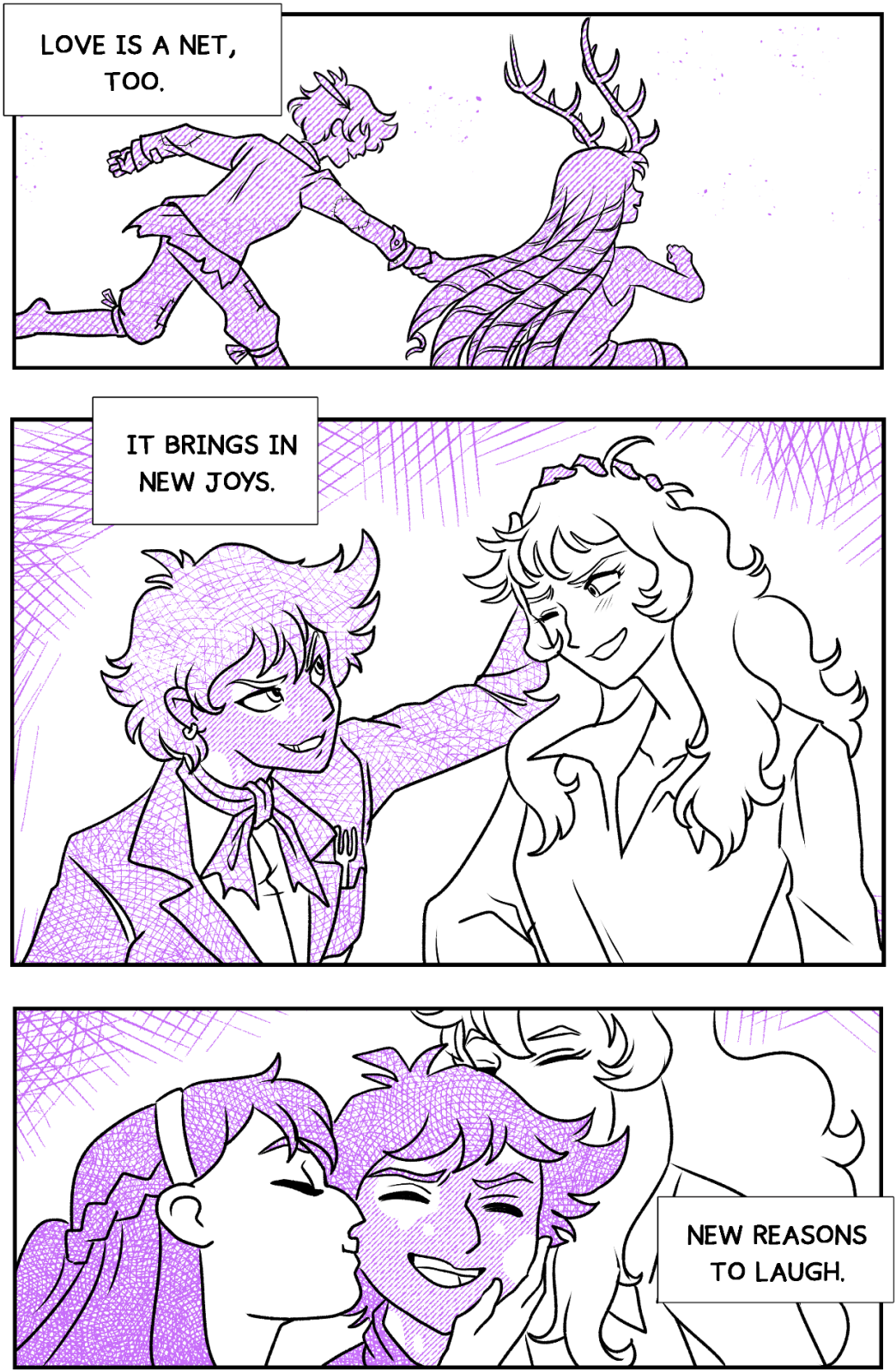

LOVE ALWAYS CREATES RIPPLES, THIS I CAN TELL YOU TRULY.
IT SPREADS FAR. FAR.
AND IT COMES BACK TO YOU.

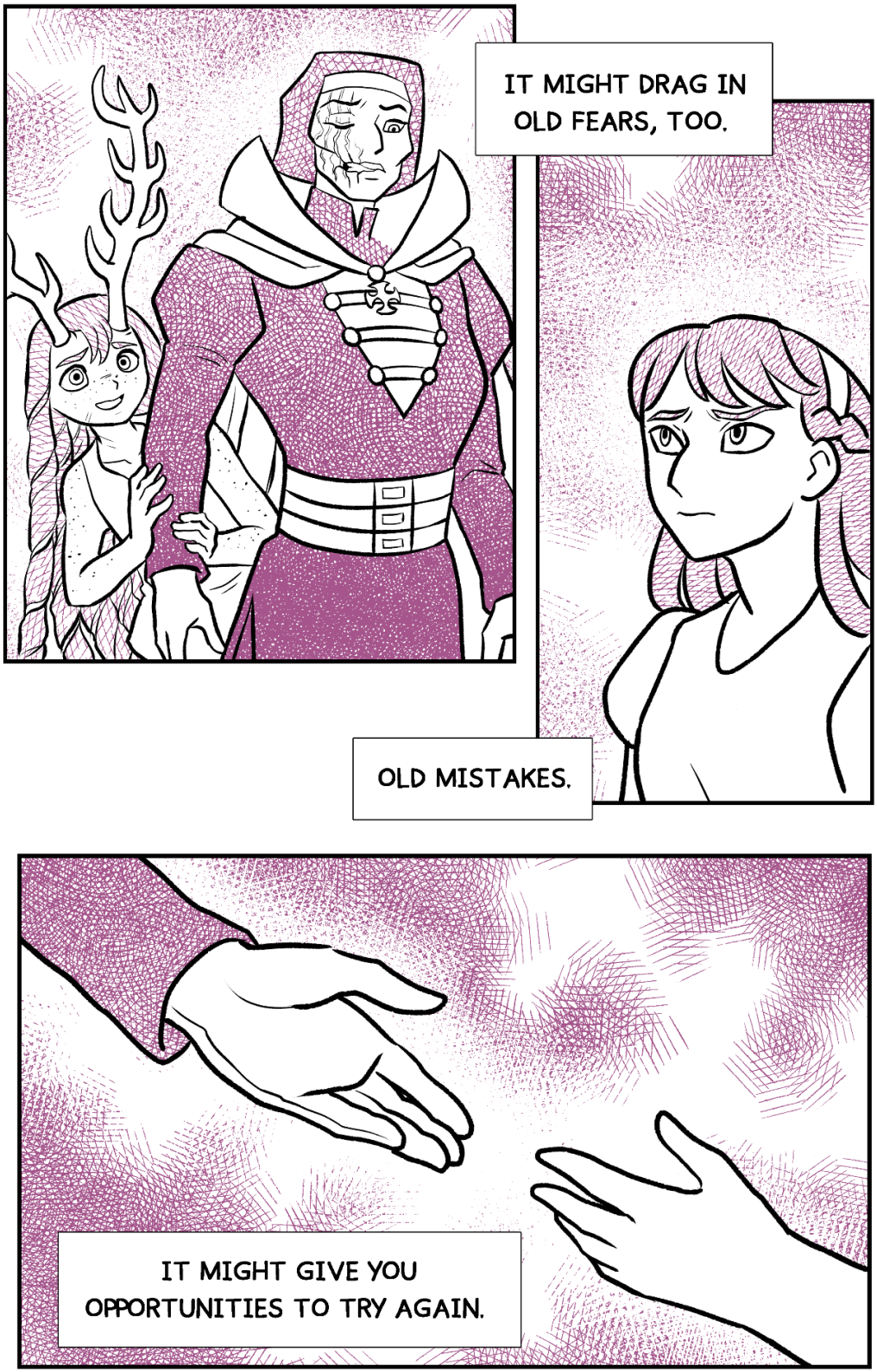




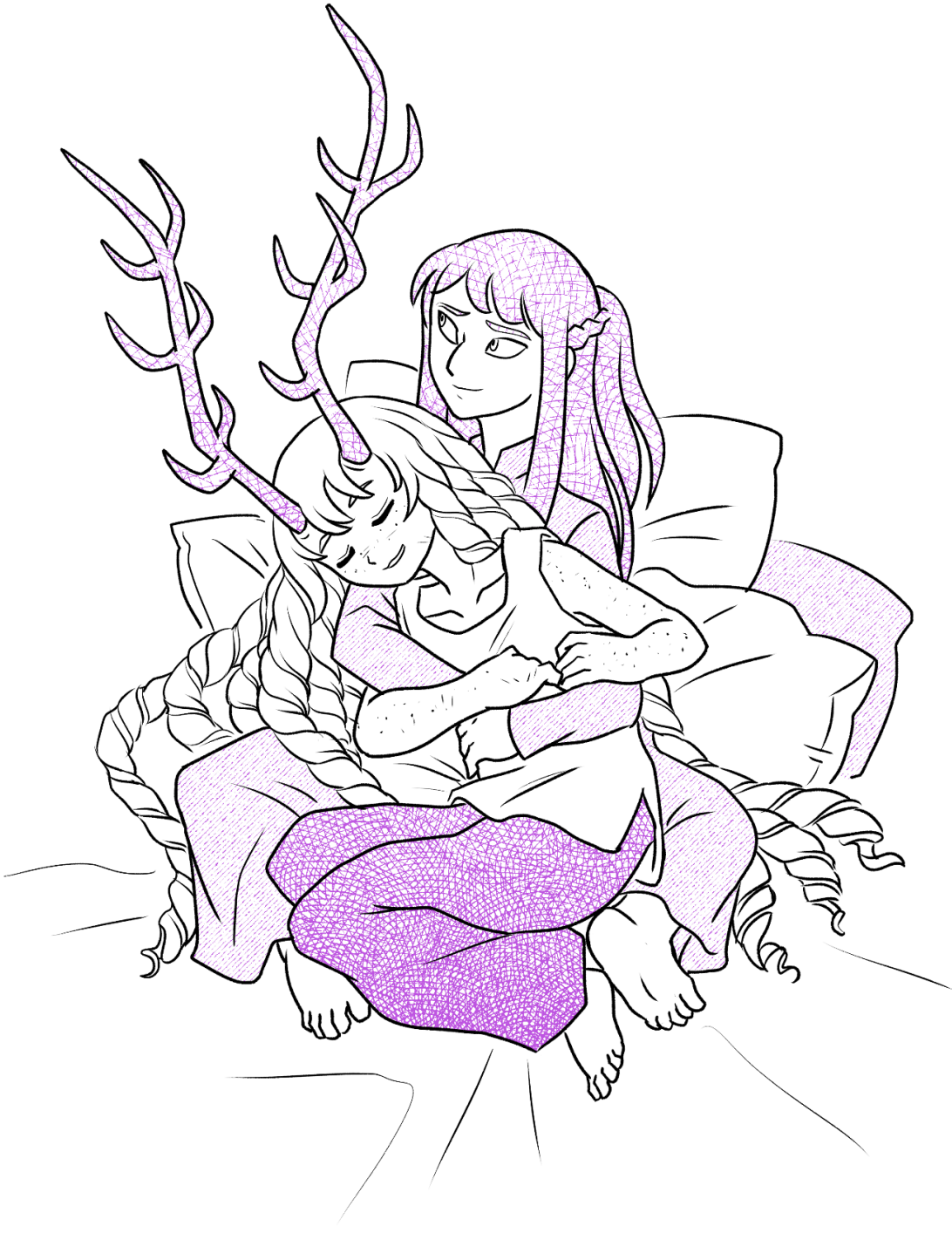
LOVE ALWAYS COMES BACK.

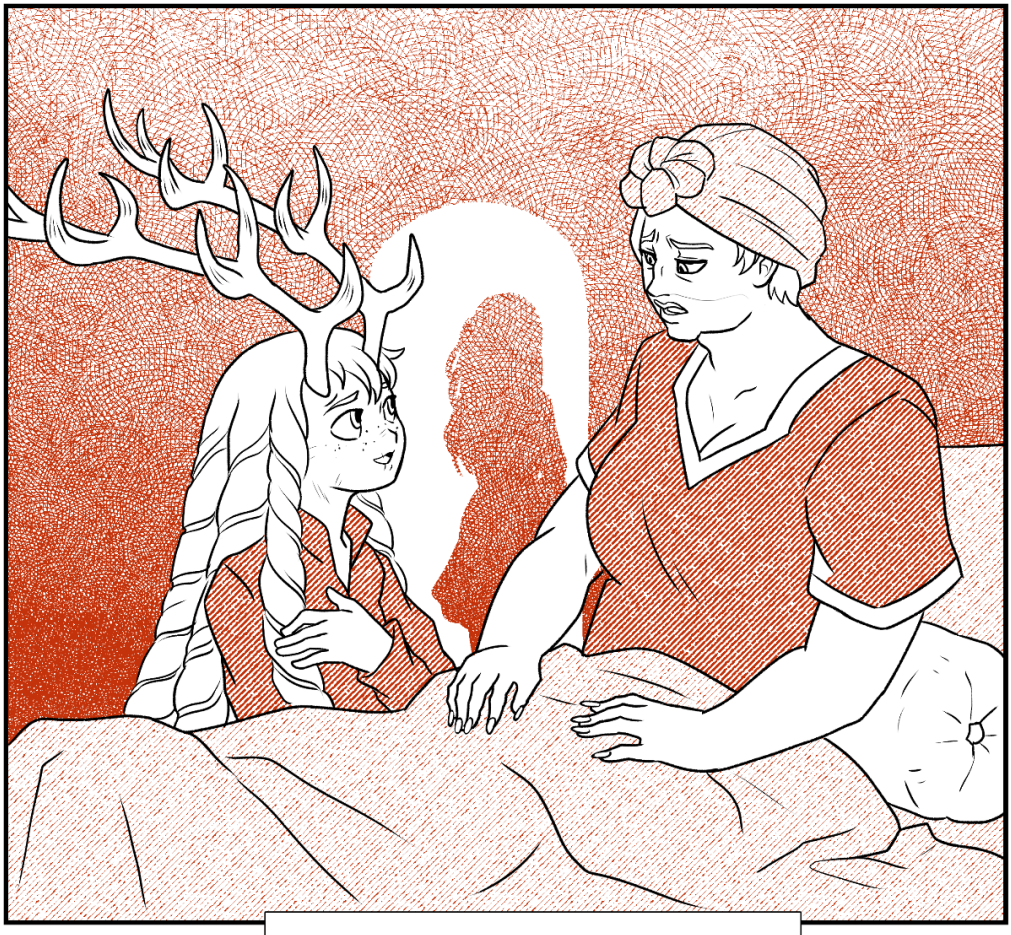

ALWAYS.


LOVE IS A NET, TOO.
IT BRINGS IN NEW JOYS.
NEW REASONS TO LAUGH.

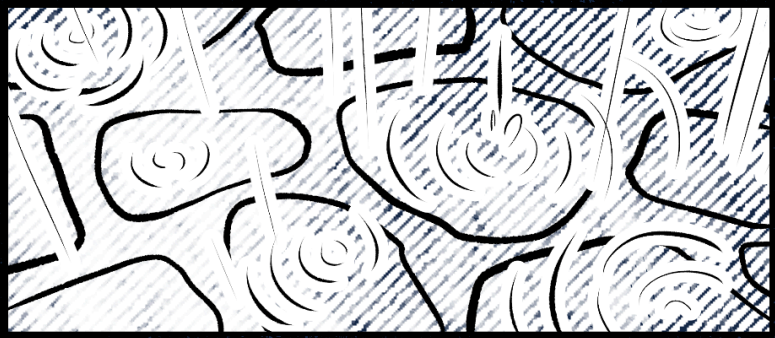

IT MIGHT DRAG IN OLD FEARS, TOO.
OLD MISTAKES.
IT MIGHT GIVE YOU OPPORTUNITIES TO TRY AGAIN.

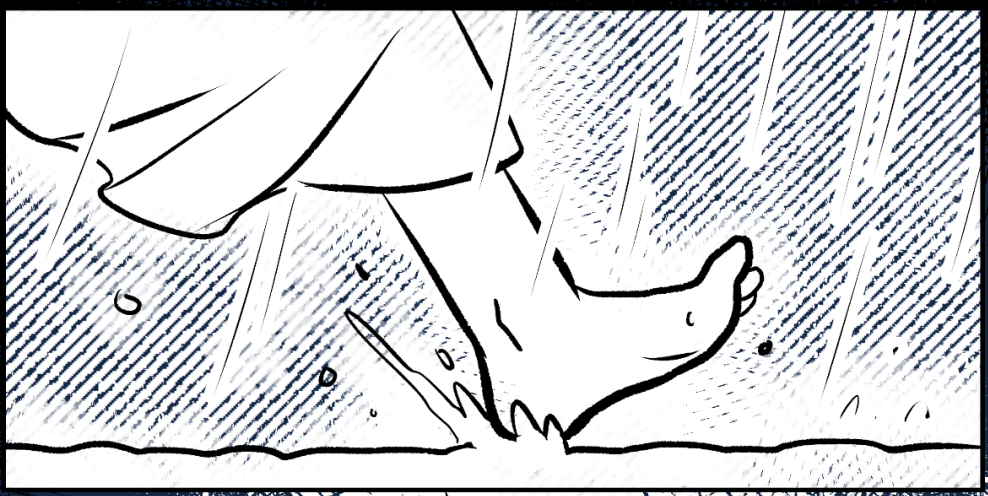
BASK IN LOVE'S QUIET.



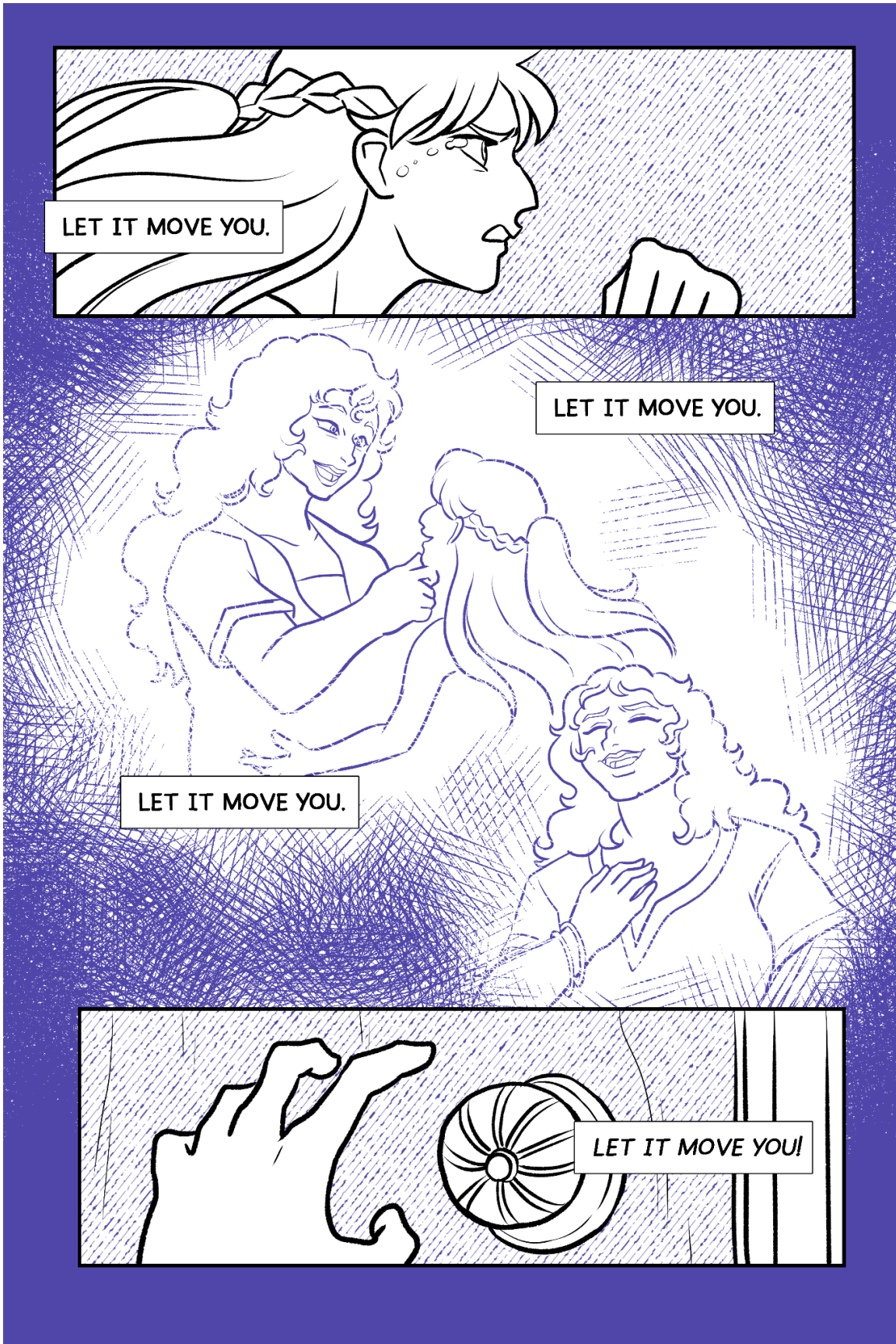


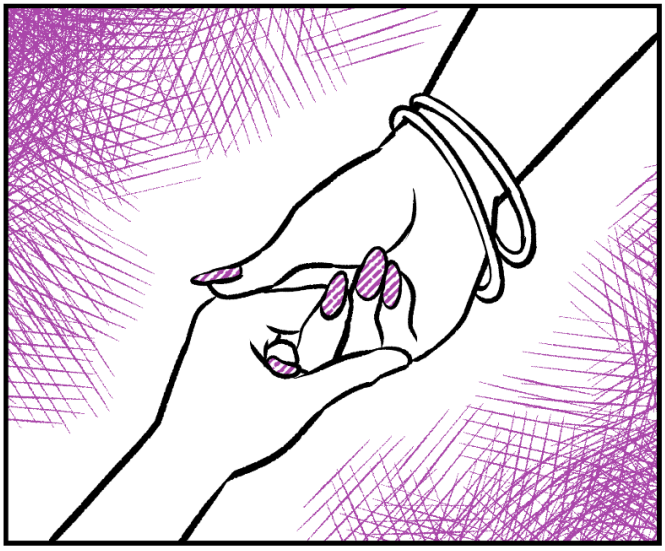
LET IT SAND AWAY
PAIN'S ROUGHEST EDGES.

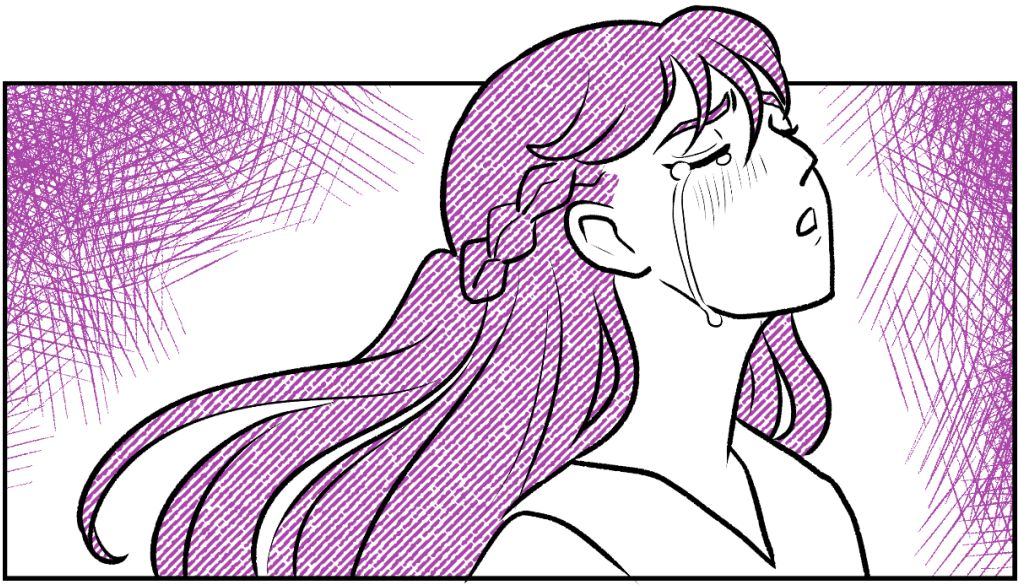


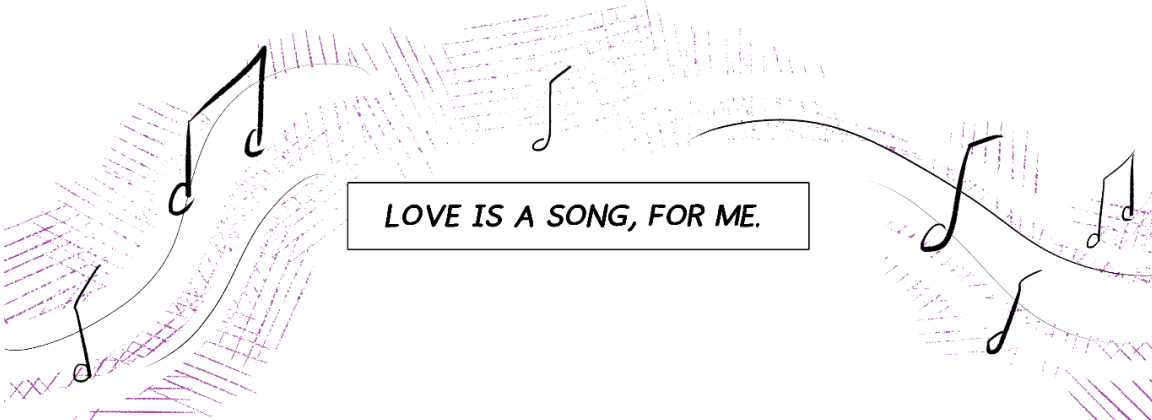


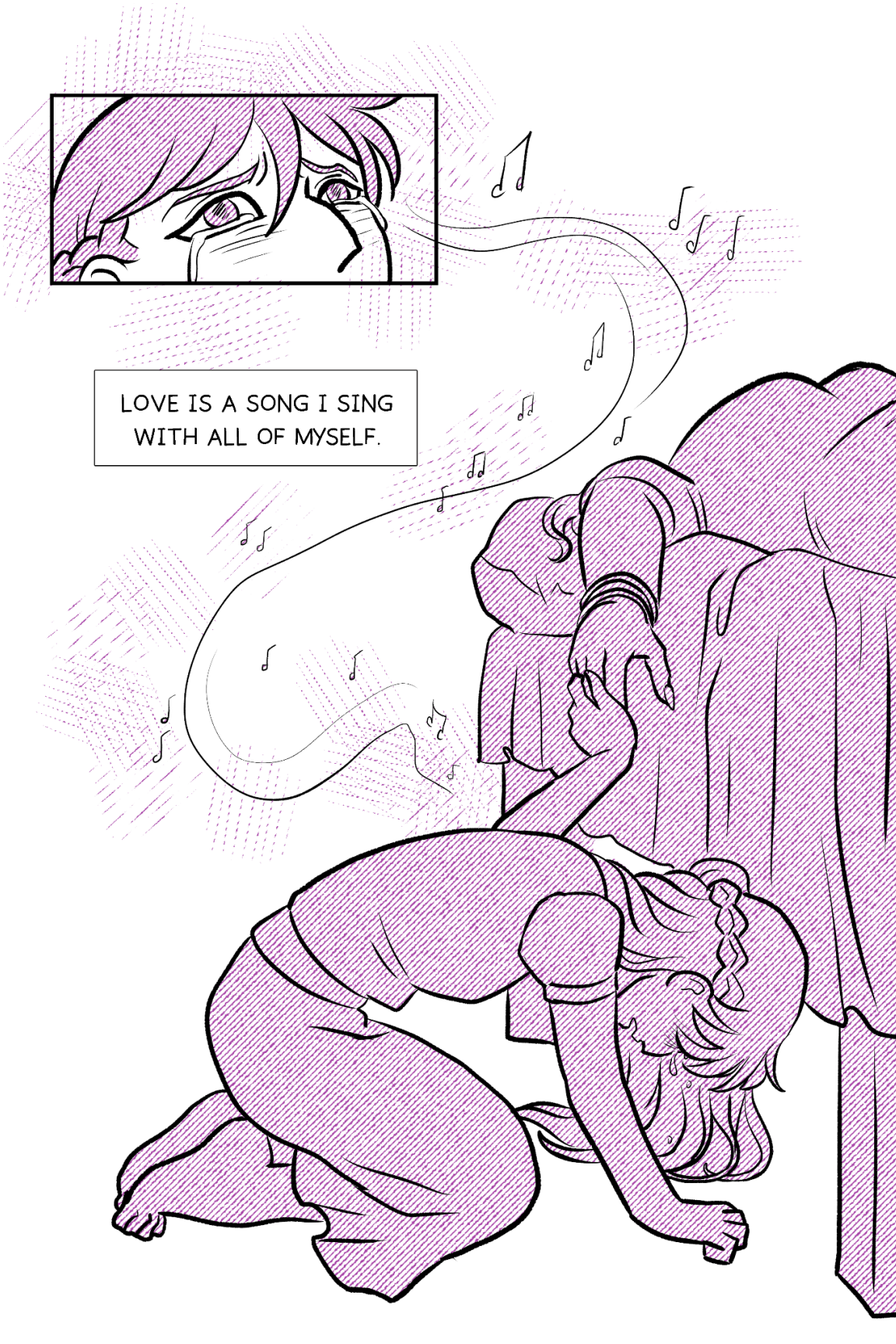
LET IT MOVE YOU.

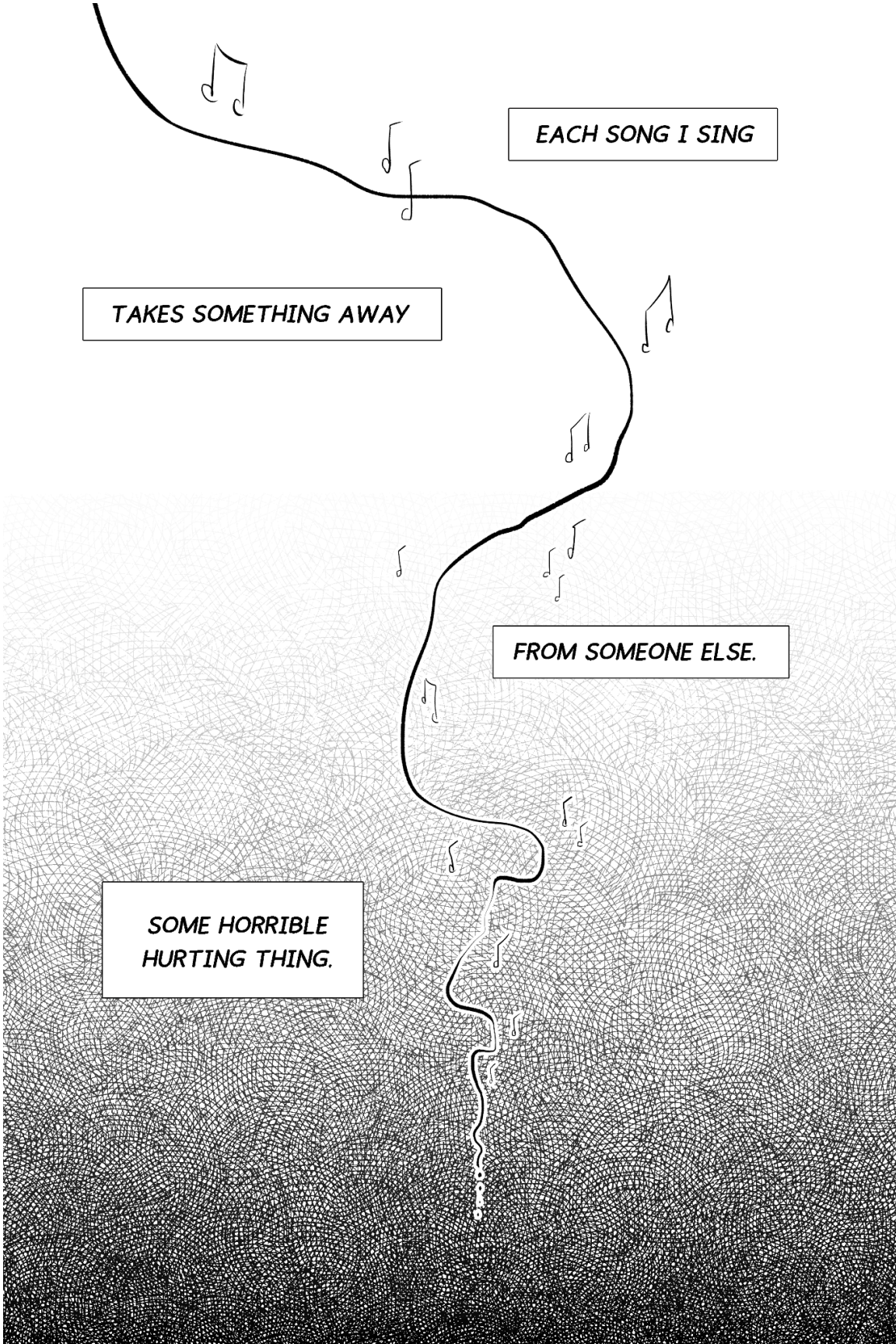

LET IT MOVE YOU.
LET IT MOVE YOU.
LET IT MOVE YOU.
LET IT MOVE YOU!





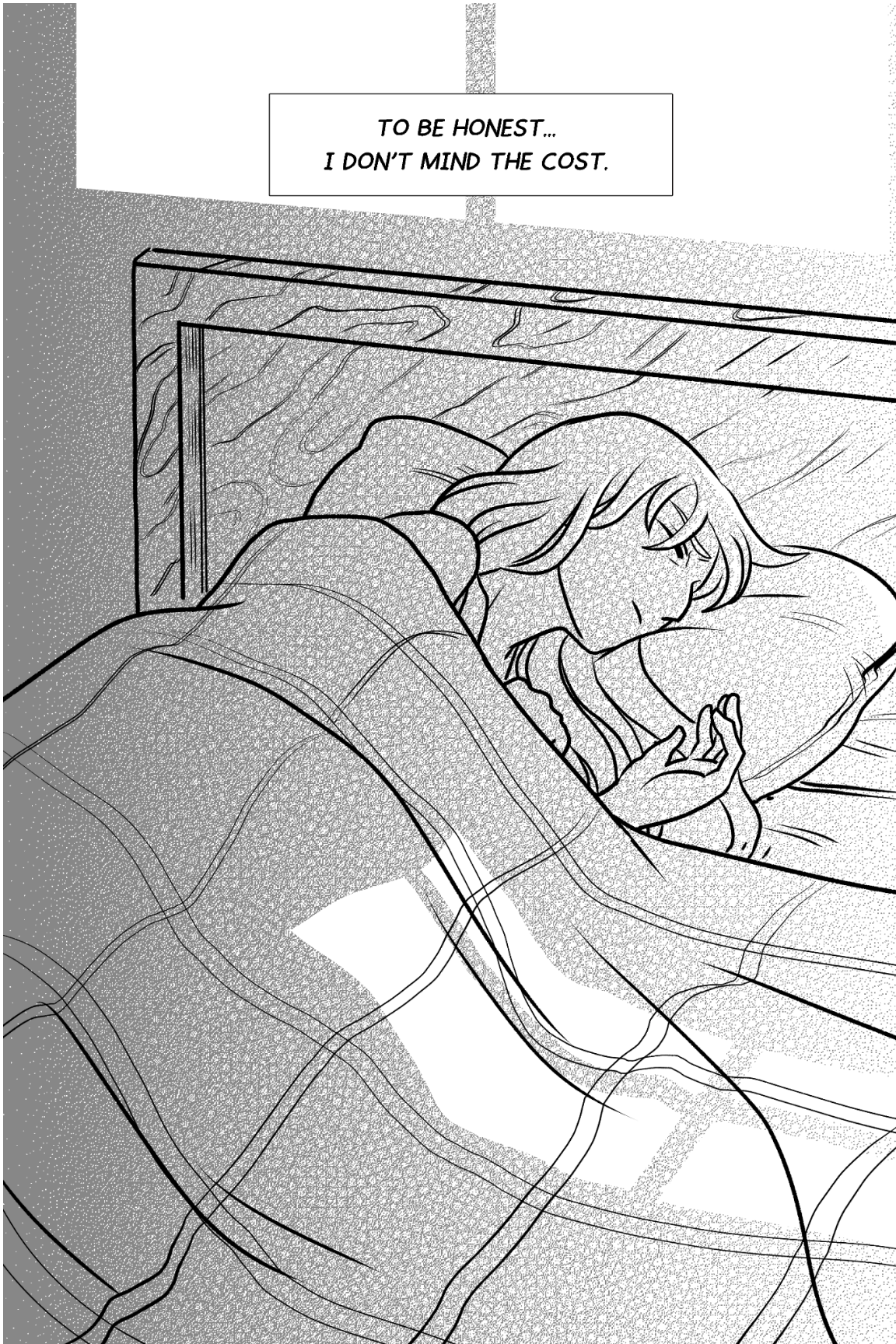

LOVE IS A SONG, FOR ME.


LOVE IS A SONG I SING
WITH ALL OF MYSELF.

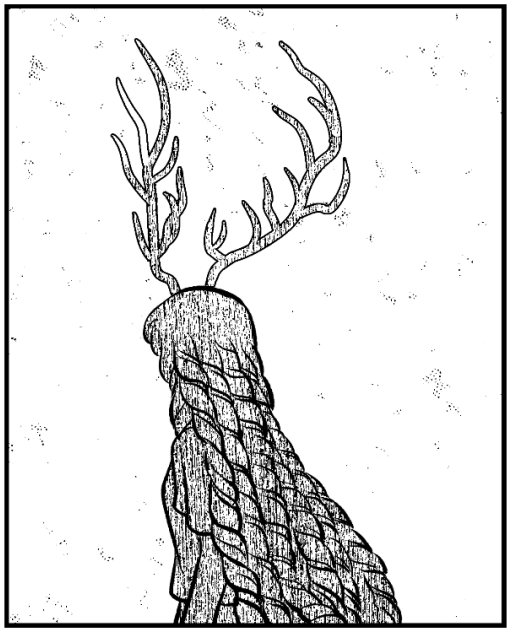

EACH SONG I SING
TAKES SOMETHING AWAY
FROM SOMEONE ELSE.
SOME HORRIBLE HURTING THING.

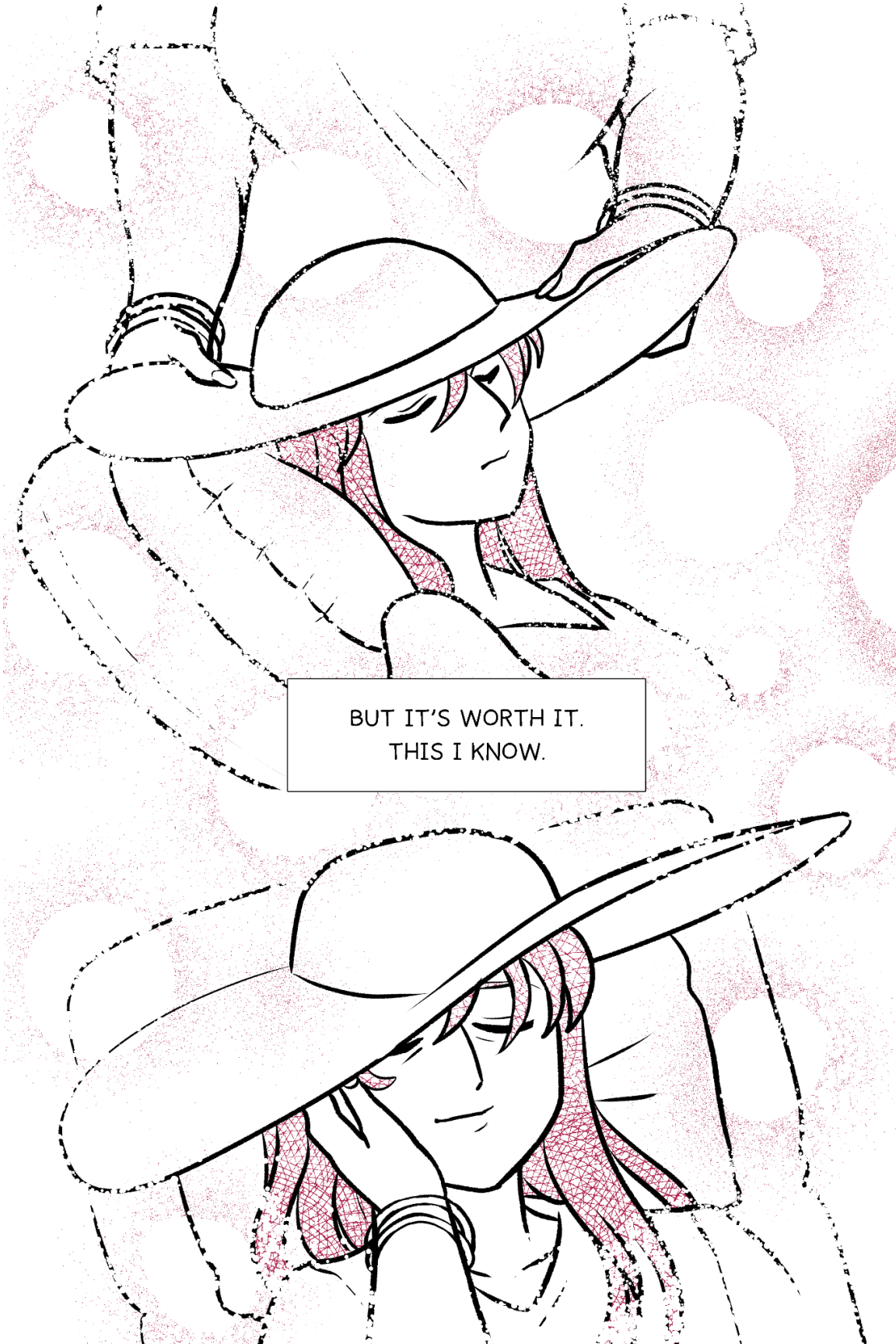
AND IN EACH SONG I SING,
I GIVE SOMETHING AWAY.

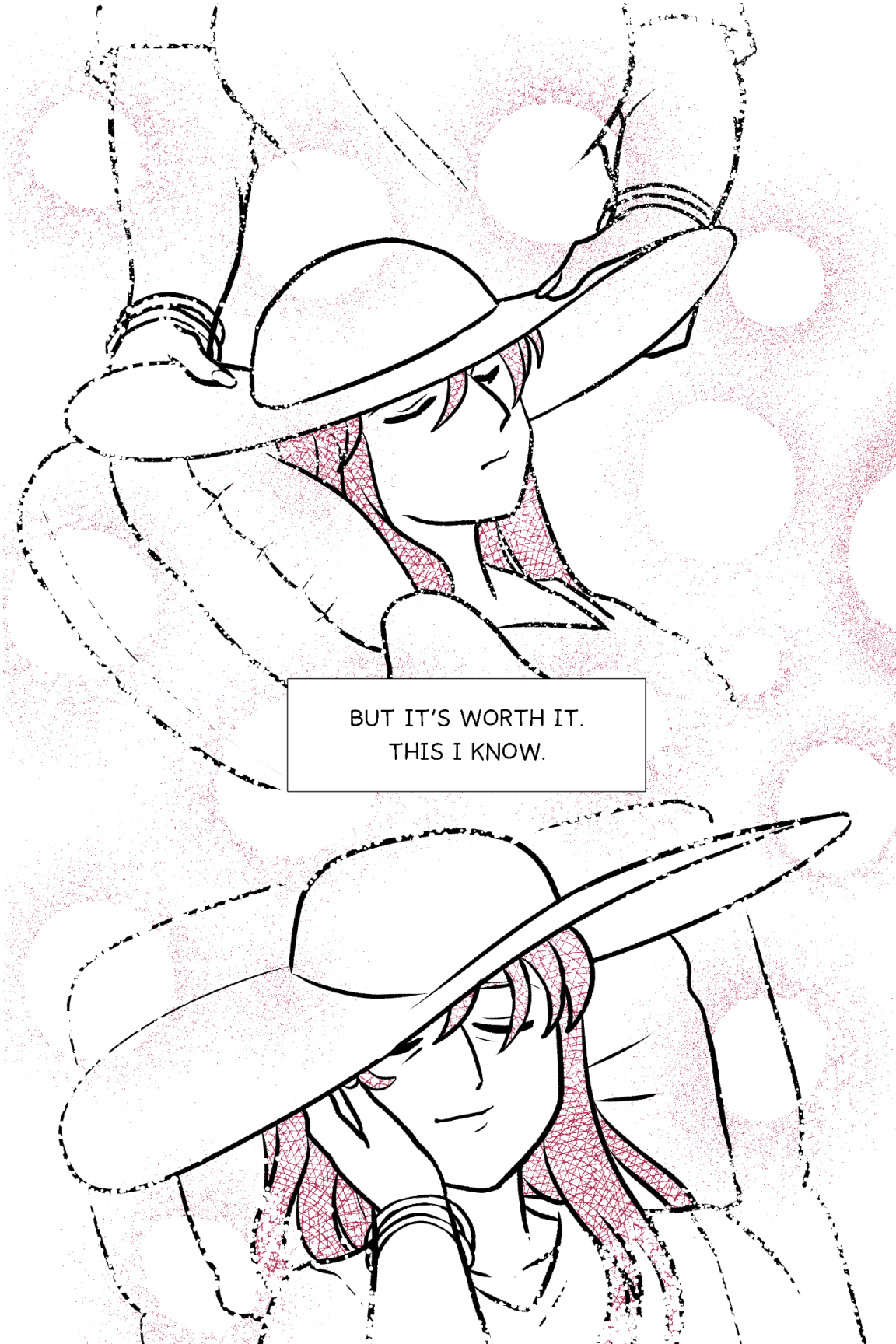
IT COSTS ME.
AND IT TERRIFIES OTHERS AROUND ME.
THE STRENGTH OF MY LOVE.

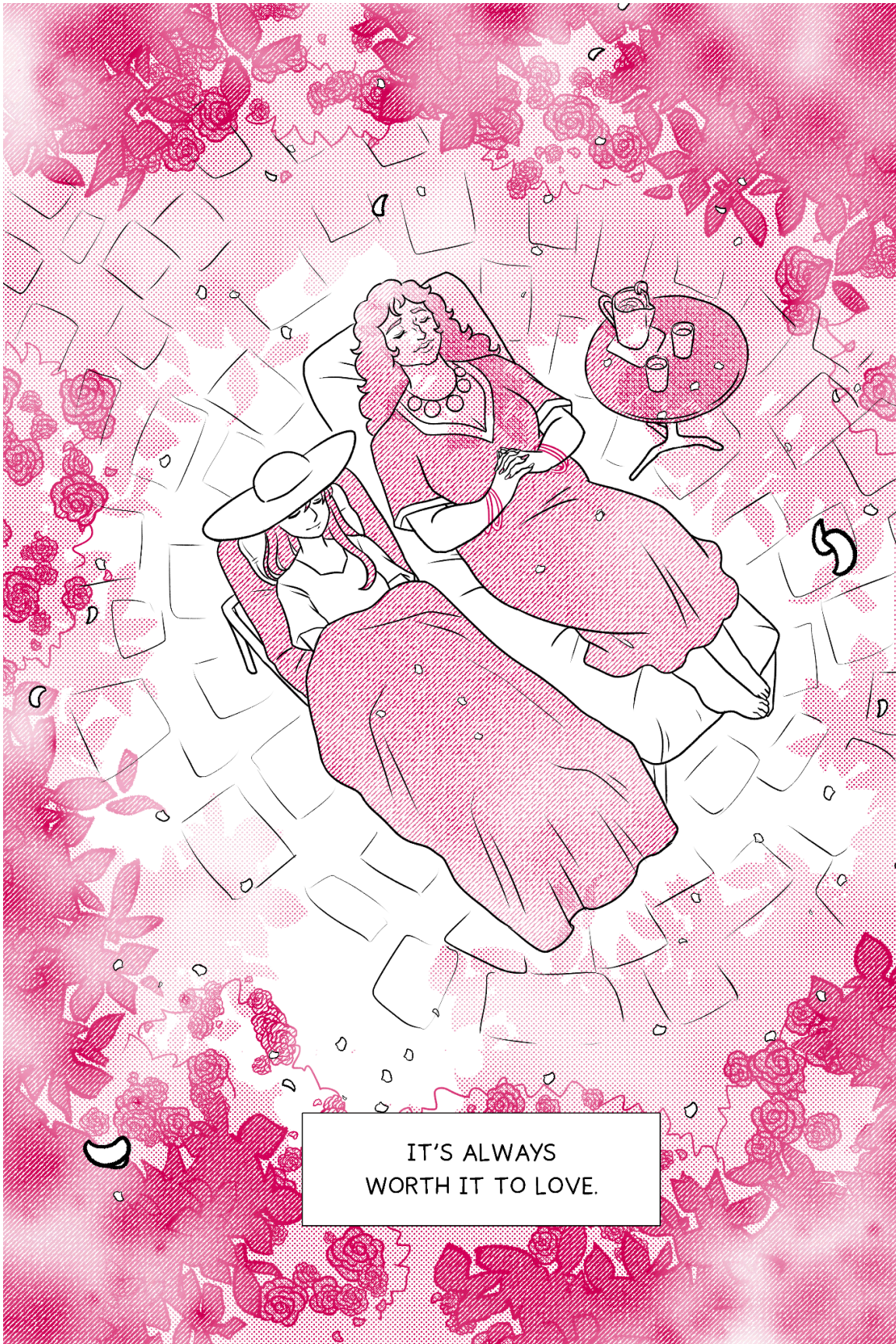

TO BE HONEST...
I DON'T MIND THE COST.

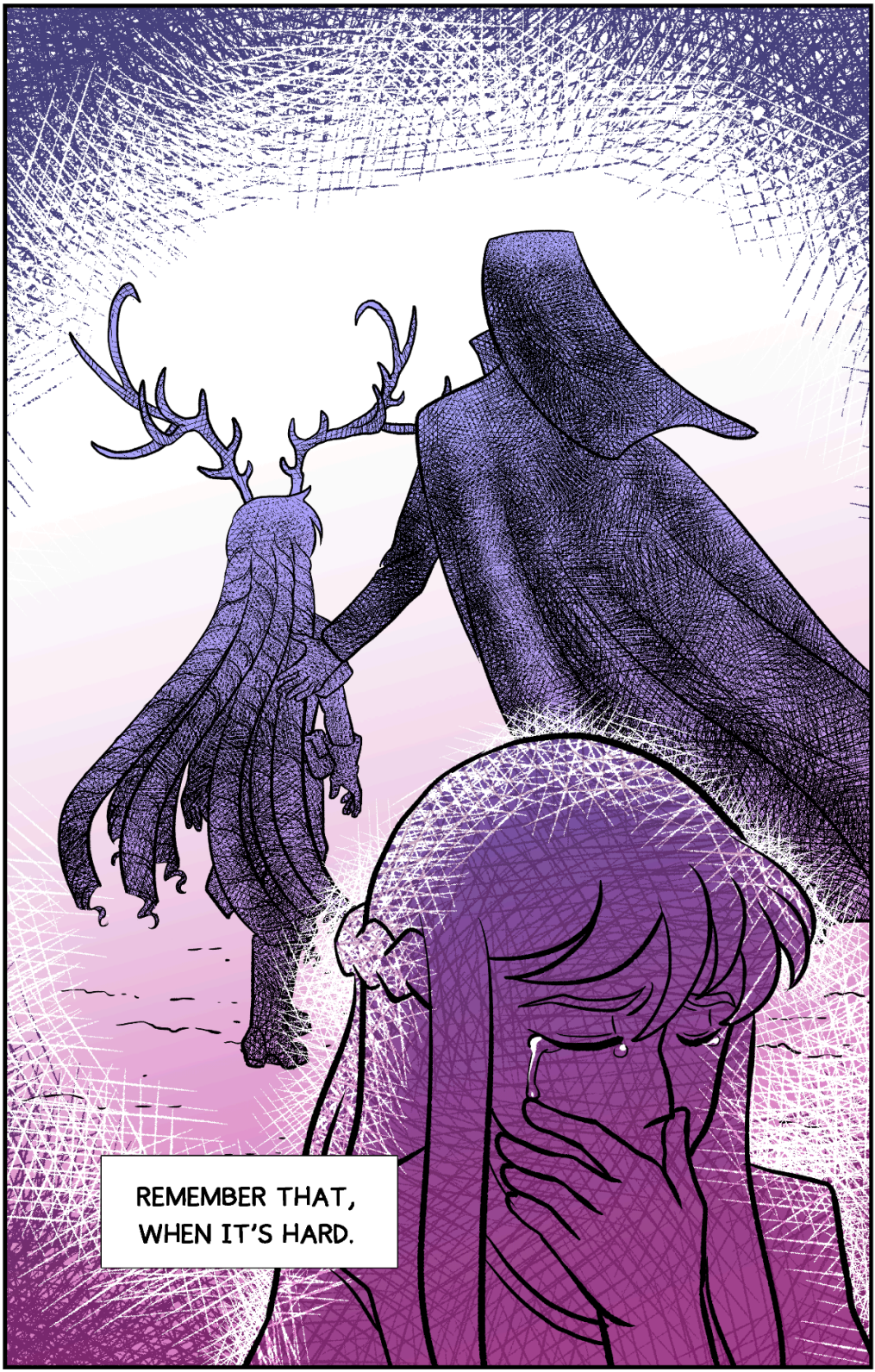
OTHERS DO.

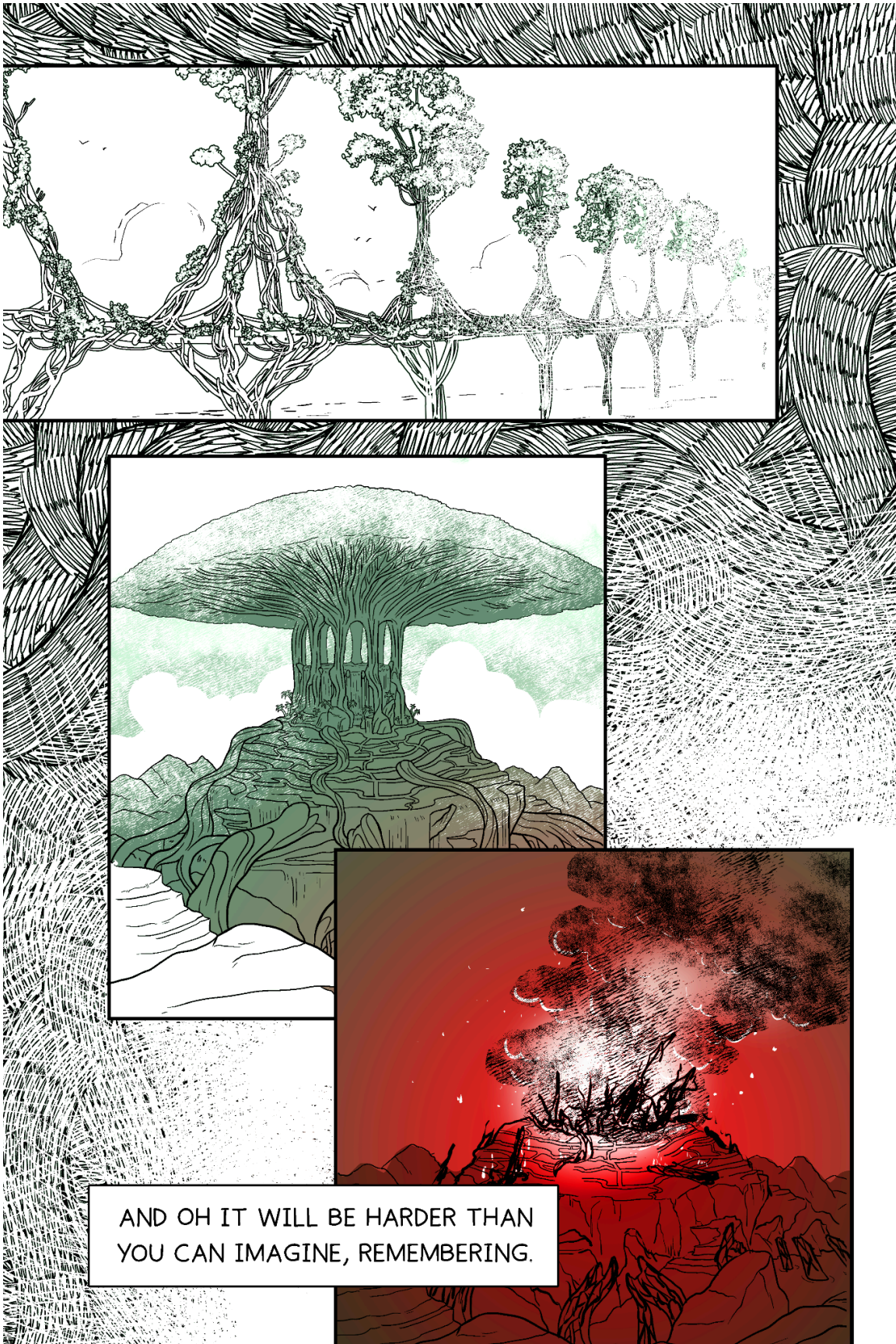


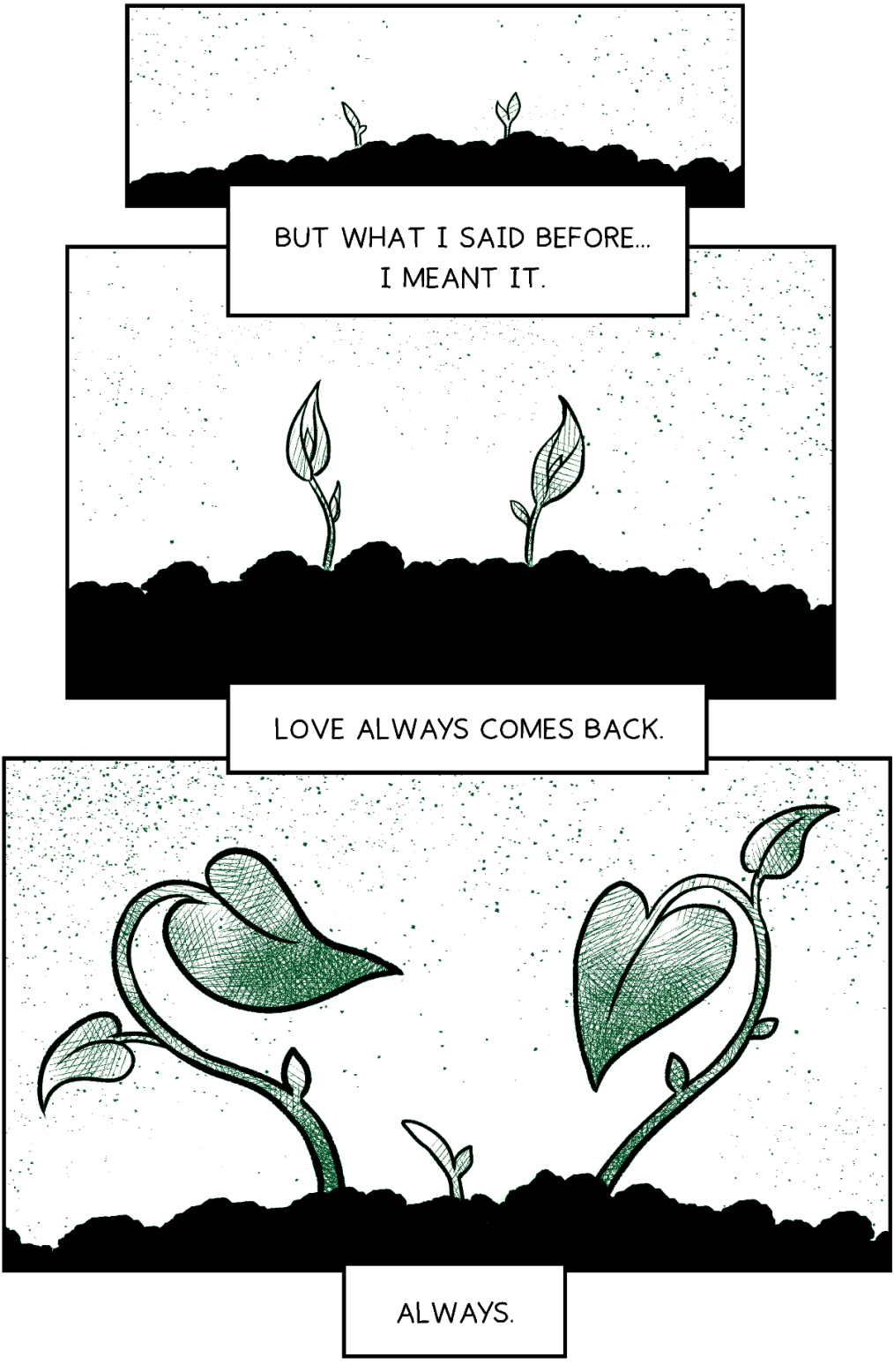

BUT IT'S WORTH IT.
THIS I KNOW.

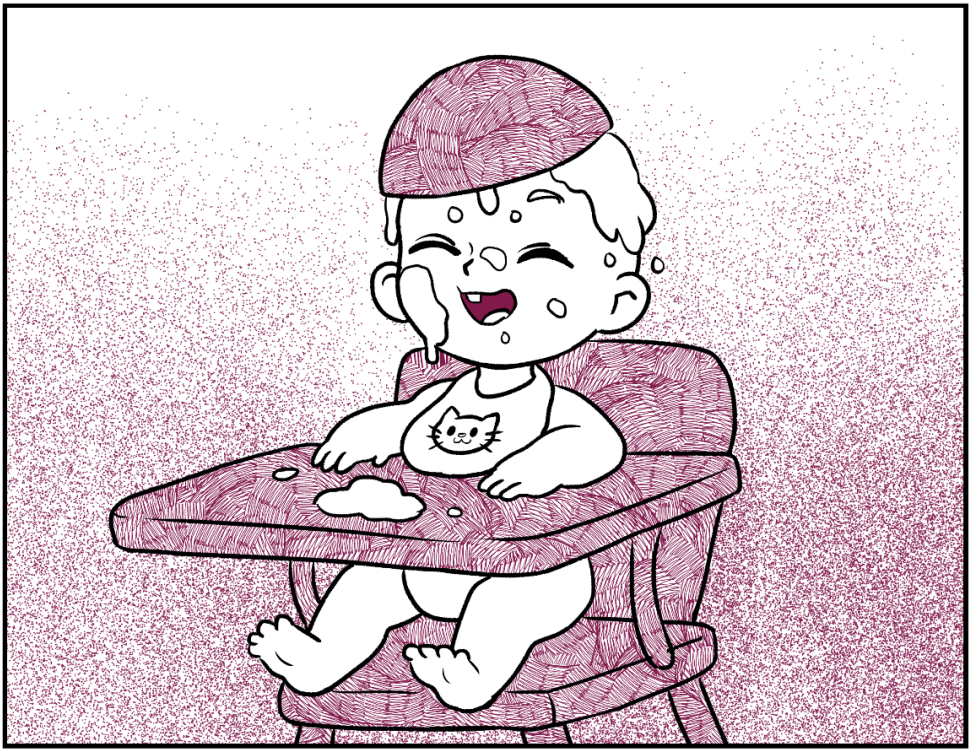

BUT IT'S WORTH IT.
THIS I KNOW.

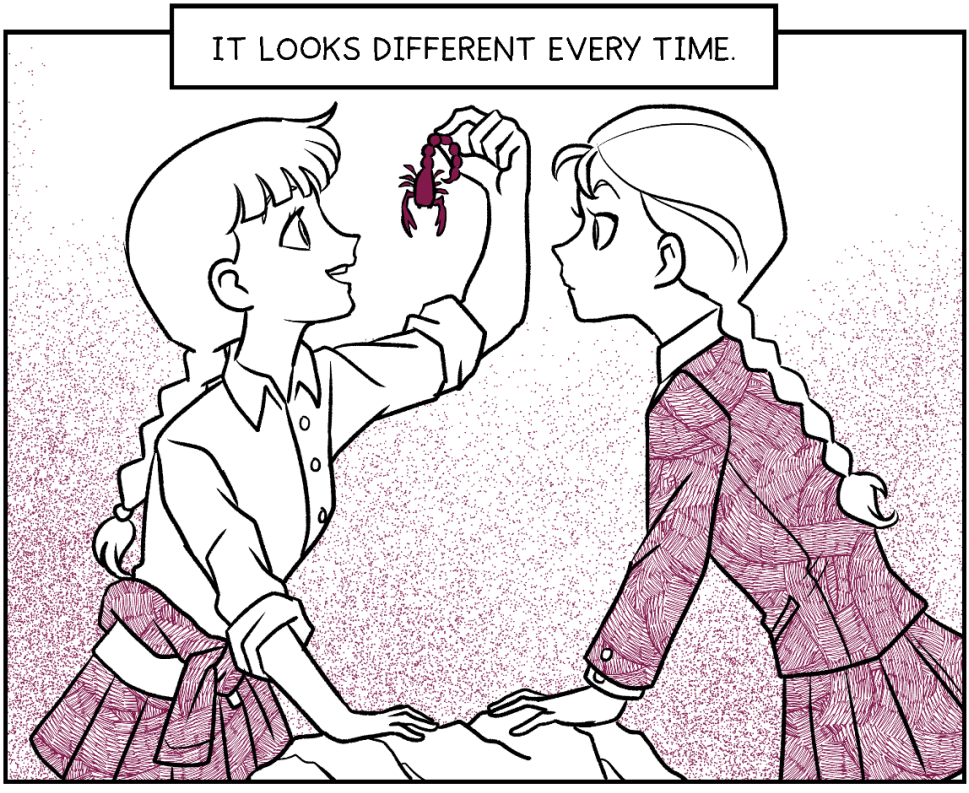

IT'S ALWAYS
WORTH IT TO LOVE.

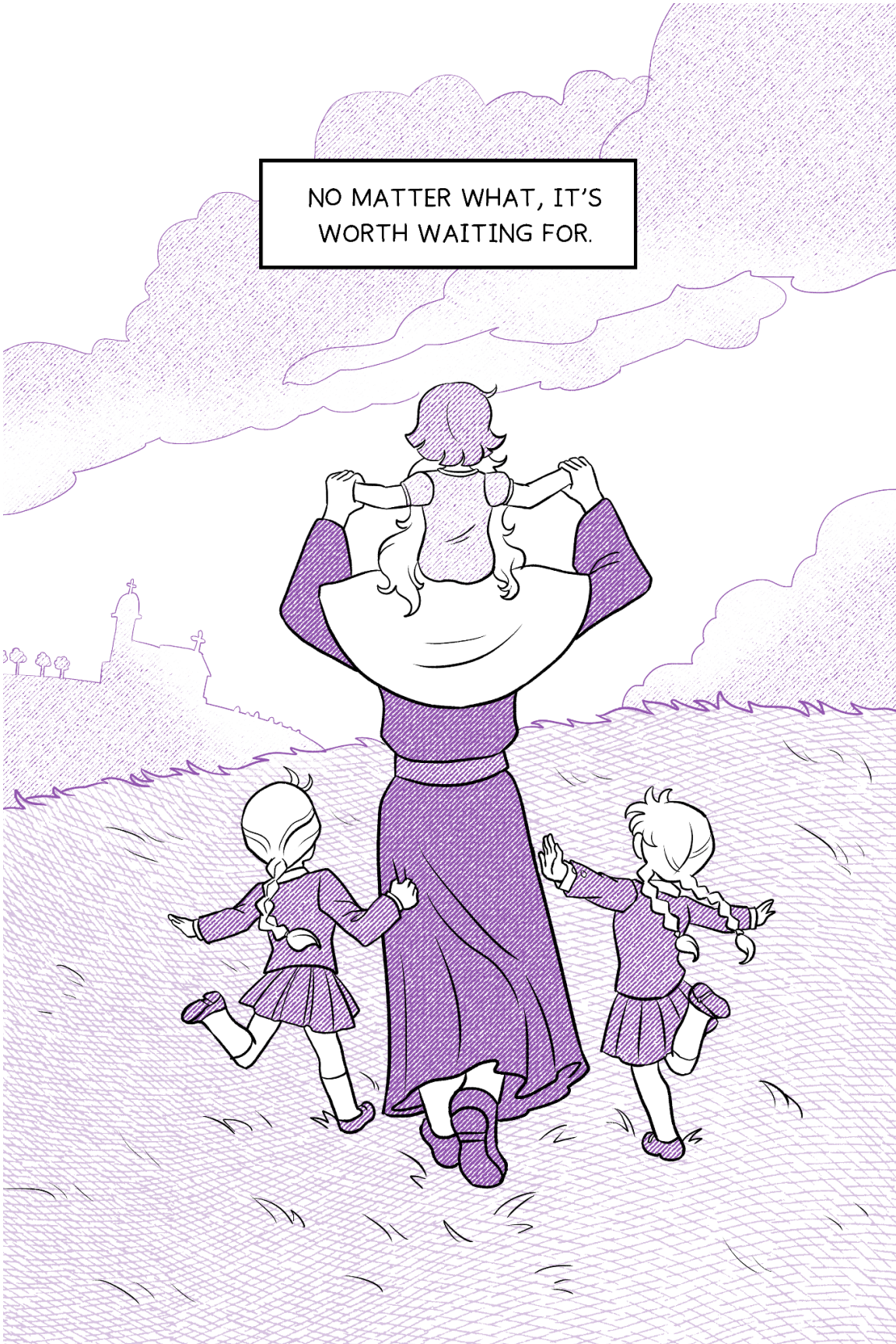

REMEMBER THAT,
WHEN IT'S HARD.


AND OH IT WILL BE HARDER THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE, REMEMBERING.

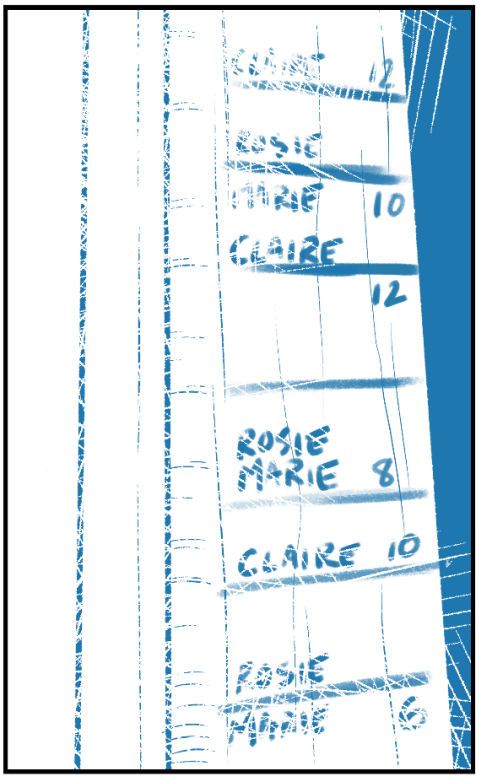

BUT WHAT I SAID BEFORE...
I MEANT IT.
LOVE ALWAYS COMES BACK.
ALWAYS.



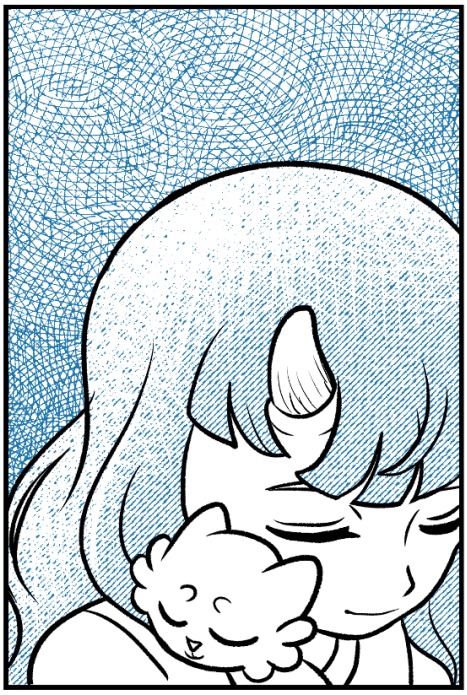

IT LOOKS DIFFERENT EVERY TIME.

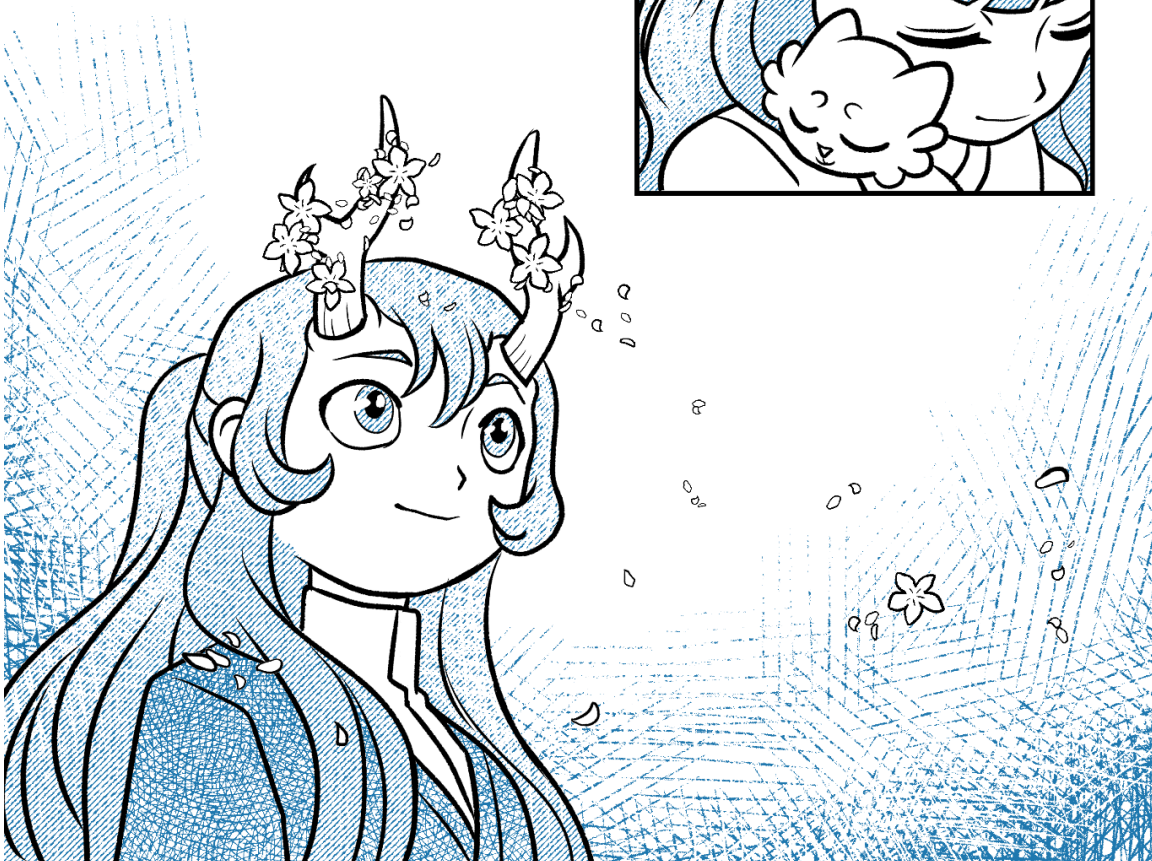

NO MATTER WHAT, IT'S WORTH WAITING FOR.

KEEP A RECORD.
MEASURE THE MOMENTS.



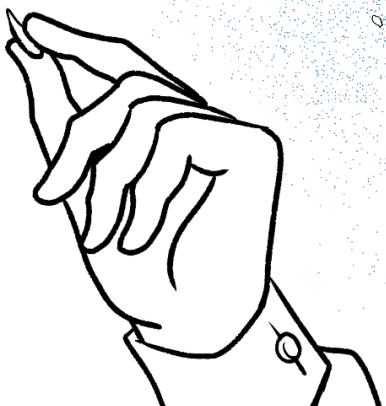
TALLY THEM UP.

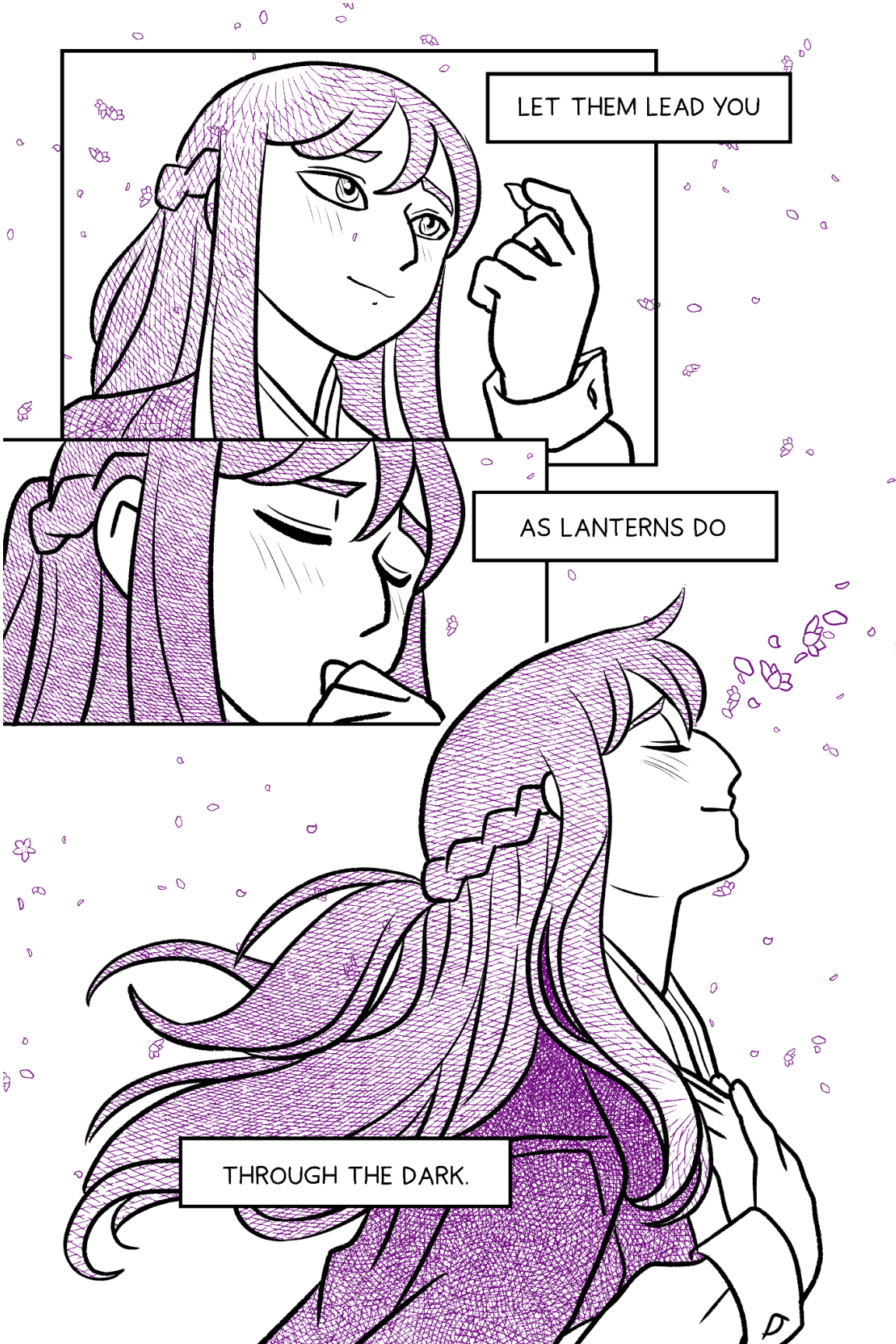




LIGHT THEM IN YOUR MIND.

IN YOUR HEART.




LET THEM LEAD YOU
AS LANTERNS DO
THROUGH THE DARK.